

RECORDING THE ELECTRICAL ERA

VOL. XXXII

WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY, 1933

NO. 1



Courtesy National Housing Association.

Houses as shelter; workers as people

FROM BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TO WILL ROGERS

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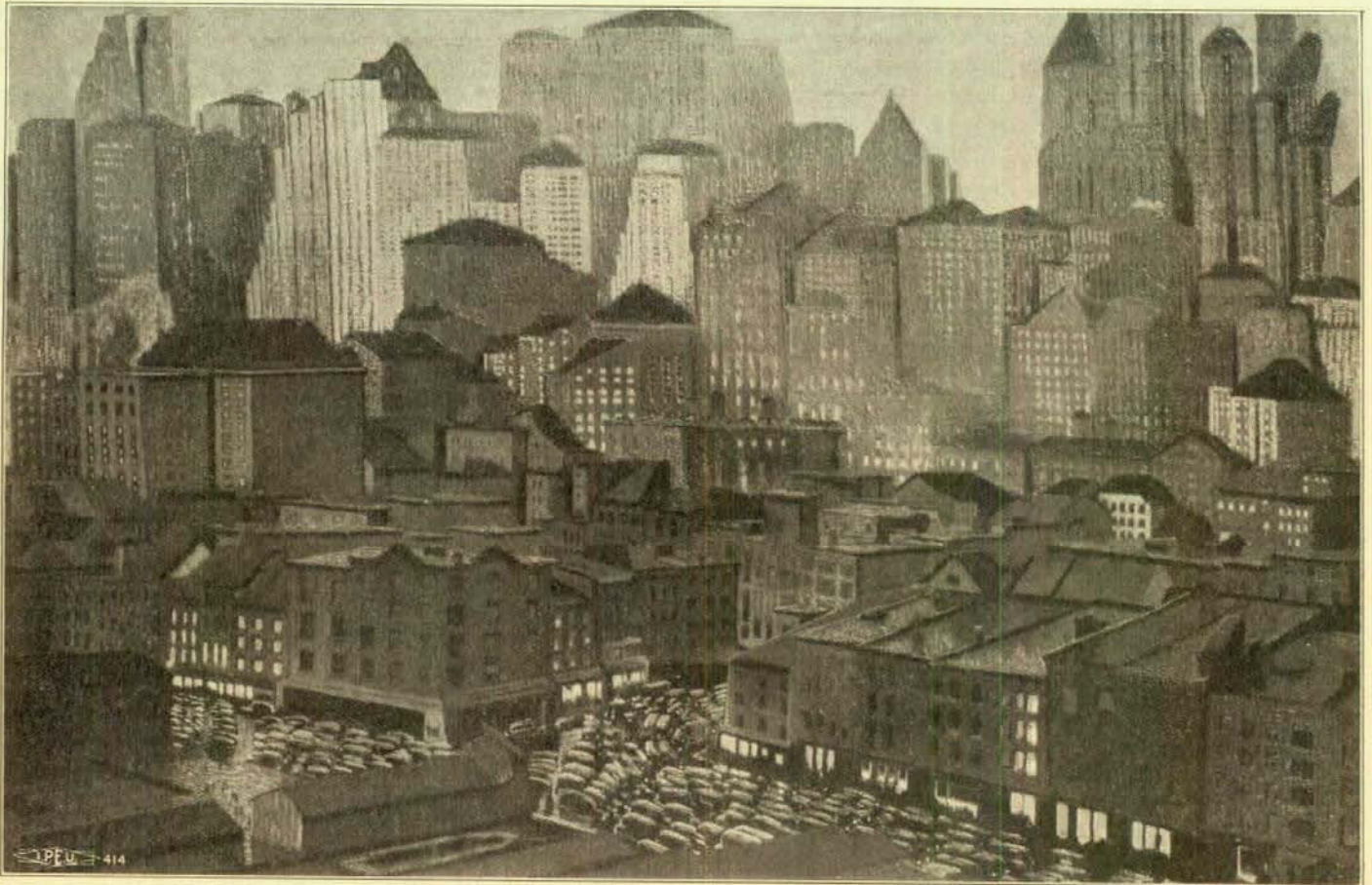
It might have been one of our boys, but it must not have been a veteran. Our boys are used to shocks. An enterprising press agent reports that the leading woman for Eddie Cantor's musical film, "The Kid From Spain", did a dance "that caused a distracted electrician to carelessly drop a 200-pound arc light to the ground 50 feet below."

While we are starting the New Year by being frivolous—who says there is no humor in government publications? A bulletin from the Federal Trade Commission remarks "a Los Angeles perfume vendor says his product is irresistible. It can captivate the soul. It will enable the user to be exclusively attractive and to win the love of any person desired." Incidentally, the makers agreed with the Federal Trade Commission to discontinue such eloquent advertising.

No subject which we have treated in months has attracted more attention than that dealing with the sweeping changes which are promised for the housing industry. We receive scores of letters from members, economists, builders, engineers and publicists. The subject is vital. The shelter industries go to the very fundamentals of civilization. Unless a nation properly houses its people it may expect no real allegiance from them.

We have been intending to speak for a long time of the fine co-operative services our membership renders in sending in material on subjects of importance. Some of our members have voluntarily investigated intelligently for us vexed questions in their own localities and forwarded the results of these investigations. This keeps us well informed on what is going forward in every section of the country, and aids us in forming proper conclusions.

Our cartoonist, "Goody", recently received a comprehensive letter from the Canal Zone, informing him about minute details of a snake's anatomy, in particular, a rattlesnake's anatomy. It is from a brother member naturalist. Who said we do not have to look sharp in our publication in order to be always technically right?



Courtesy Corcoran Gallery of Art

THE CITY

By Ernest L. Blumenschein





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WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY, 1933

No. 1

May Housing Be Considered A Public Utility?

A BUSINESS is usually counted a public utility when its proper functioning is necessary to the nation's life. Another characteristic is the monopolistic character of the business. Water, gas, electricity, transportation—these are counted utilities. Save perhaps during wartime, food, clothing, shelter and coal have never been counted public utilities in the United States. The assumption has been that the question of home ownership, feeding and clothing a family lies in the realm of individual initiative and private enterprise. As a result, nearly all of these fundamental industries have been subjected to the uncertainties and planlessness of private business. Foods have become stabilized through the creation of large trusts and the formation of retail chain stores, but the building industry has remained pretty much what it has always been—a highly speculative business without even the stabilizing influence of one large trade association.

The depression was preceded by a period of over-building in the industrial and commercial fields. As builders dug themselves out of the debris following depression and looked around for new worlds to conquer, they espied the residential field so-called and discovered that millions of American citizens did not own their homes, and that probably one-third of the entire population was housed in substandard dwellings. Here then was a field for exploitation which offered possibilities quite equal to or surpassing the underbuilt market which was discovered in 1921, and which may be said to have led America out of the depression wilderness of that year. Four approaches were made to this new field of exploitation:

1. The effort to manufacture and to put upon the market a steel house of indefinite type and character, fabricated after methods and plans used in the mass production automobile industry, and sold on the installment plan to the submerged one-third of propertyless citizens.

2. A proposal of certain economists, publicists and social workers to eliminate slums in every city over 100,000 in the United States through government aid to municipalities and private contractors who would undertake displacement of worthless tenements by modern housing.

3. The proposal of the American Construction Council to form a building financial pool of such dimensions as to

Move for slum clearance, and low-cost housing creates ferment in basic industry. Two schools of thought. New ideas may serve to stabilize an over-speculative business. Rent takers stand firm.

enable private contractors to do the same job of slum clearance without government aid.

4. The arrival of other types of inexpensive housing, including the fabricated lumber house, accompanied by a drive by the established agencies to supply the need for low-priced homes through customary channels.

It is now regarded with a certainty by those familiar with the building industry in more countries than one that slums will not be cleared in the United States without government aid and influence. Measured by the 30 per cent to 50 per cent profit taken by speculative business in the residential field, the promised return on slum clearance homes made with government aid is not attractive enough to draw private contractors to that field. Strong pressure is mobilizing among professional rentiers and real estate men to head off government aid for slum clearance. The position of these citizens are that such subsidized housing presents unfair competition to the private owner. The rentier feels that this competition will work in two directions: first, it will draw from his apartments and houses tenants into the new subsidized houses; or, it will cause a lessening in the value of his real estate already erected which he cannot afford to take. These strongly organized economic groups are outspoken in their opposition to housing and government aid, and utilized strong economic pressure against the constituted authorities to prevent any consummation of the plan.

These spokesmen for private enterprise fail to point out that under their leadership slums remain in existence and that one-third of the population of the United States lives in conditions which encourage crime, bitterness, ignorance and disease.

The United States has lagged far behind England, Holland, Germany, Austria and France in the matter of

good housing. Though America usually boasts of high standards of living, the nation as a whole has done nothing to raise the standard of housing since the war, while England has built more than a million new homes, and France, Germany, Holland and Austria have followed in proportion to population.

In London, public housing enterprise is made a matter of public health. Believing that tenements can be a source of disease, the London County Council has acted to erase many of the age-old slums of the great city. The method used there has been large scaled building. Areas as large as 18 acres, capable of housing 3,500 people, have been laid out and constructed at one time. This method is in accord with the best opinion of American architects—that the best results will be secured in this wise. The London County Council stresses equally the value of garden suburbs. The British type of architecture is maintained. Winding streets, many trees and rich gardens are made a part of each development. Developments in Holland, Germany, Austria and France resemble these. All of them have either direct government aid or government encouragement.

The housing of a population is a many-sided enterprise. Shelter meets a basic need. This basic need is great and fundamental enough to give the building industry the dignity of a public utility, but social agencies are finding other reasons for regarding building as a public utility. Crime experts are beginning to trace crime to those centers of congested population in our big cities where children do not have proper home life. Due to crowding, bad air, bad lighting, lack of privacy, dirt and foulness, potential criminals are manufactured rapidly and turned loose upon the population. If there were no other reason for starting a slum clearance movement than that of combating crime, this would be adequate.

In the meantime the drive for marketing steel homes on a high pressure sales basis goes on apace in the United States. The campaign of the ELECTRICAL WORKERS' JOURNAL to make its membership and its many readers outside the union see the character of the steel house campaign has succeeded. The ELECTRICAL WORKERS' JOURNAL has received more letters and communications from friendly readers in regard to those numbers on steel houses than on any other subject in years. This would indicate

that America is thinking deeply on this question of housing. It would also indicate that Americans are not ready yet to accept the fabricated steel house at the price and terms laid down by its makers. The contention of the *ELECTRICAL WORKERS' JOURNAL* that the steel house makers are boldly striking at union wage scales and union standards is borne out by a survey made in Los Angeles. There salesmen of a certain brand of steel houses tells prospective buyers that the great value of the steel house is that it cuts out the use of skilled crafts, and saves the labor costs to prospective owners. Glowing claims are made for the steel houses. They are pictured as beautiful, efficient, cool, earthquake-proof, soundproof, windproof and vermin proof. None of the drawbacks of such a home are mentioned. Such high-sounding, high-pressure terms as "contentment models" are used. The publicity for these steel houses states: "A steel home can be transported on one truck and erected rapidly by any competent builder or carpenter by following simple plans and specifications furnished with each home." The very small size of the house as compared with a lumber house, which could be had for the same money, the lack of individuality, are not made evident, of course, by the publicity people for steel houses.

For the present it appears that the movement to concede housing as a public utility has been halted in this country. But the question is not likely to rest there. American citizens, proud of the supposed reputation of the United States for progressiveness, will not want to see their country lag behind European nations and will insist that the unsightly and dangerous slums be razed.

A large engineering firm writes to this *JOURNAL* apropos of its articles on low-cost housing without loss of standard values.

"I am glad to learn that you are educating your workmen to the fact that there is a limit to the amount which they can afford to invest in a home. Lack of such education has been the cause of much grief during the past few years.

"I note that you state the old rule which apparently held in my younger days, that one can expend about one-fourth of his income on housing. When I was just starting out in the ship yards 30 odd years ago the rule was that a man should not expend more than his weekly wage for rent, which is practically the equivalent of the rule as stated in your article.

"Judging from the figures quoted I think, however, that one thing may have been forgotten in applying this rule. You have made an allowance, out of the \$500 which constitutes a quarter of the man's yearly earnings, of \$420 for carrying charges on the house and \$80 for repairs and up-keep. Now unfortun-



Courtesy National Housing Association
SLUM AREA IN COLUMBUS, OHIO

nately one of the big items in the cost of rent is taxes, and these taxes, if the rule today is to cover the same items as were covered by the old rule, should be included in the \$500. It is quite likely that with the present valuations and tax rates, even with a low cost house, the taxes for the year might amount to \$100. If the house was built in new territory there might, for a few years in addition, be a betterment assessment, so that really the amount of money which a workman earning \$2,000 a year can put into a house should be based more nearly on \$400 than \$500. The workman can reduce somewhat the amount of money allowed for upkeep and repairs because of his own skill with regard to these matters, but the municipality in which he is located will demand cash for taxes, and if the home is located near a community of any size the tax burden will be quite considerable."

An engineer somewhat caustically comments on the mistakes of unions.

"It seems to me that so long as the unions have accepted capitalistic determination of such major problems of community living and planning, they have little strength in suggesting (when their own advantage is being invaded) that a problem is raised for democratic determination. To my mind, the economically significant displacement of the worker by a profit-driven technology is the worker's own fault, to the degree that he has taken the technological development when it was to his advantage, and resisted it when it was to his disadvantage, without considering dispassionately what it was doing to workers in other trades and to workers as consumers.

"Your proposed remedy, in my judgment, comes too late. I need not tell you that labor unions have objected to

public control of problems which they felt were too close to their interest and needs to warrant the entrance of "outsiders" into the issues. Workers, in my opinion, are much too late in discovering themselves as consumers, to be in a strong position when they need the consumer's moral support. Capitalistic control of industry has found workers not only divided jurisdictionally, but divided as consumers—which has provided a situation very easily controlled by the bankers and businessmen, in countless ways and against the public interest.

"Some day perhaps the American Federation of Labor will direct itself to the problem of dealing with technological displacement of workers in a way that will persuade the public that it is something more than one private interest fighting another private interest—and the devil take the consumer, who is hindmost."

ELECTRICITY

No more mysterious thing exists on the face of this globe than electricity, yet everyone is acquainted with it. It is to be found in the home, on the street, in the factory. Its presence is always made clear at night time by its light which illumines the world. It gives heat; it gives power to move our trains and make our goods, and, like every other beneficent thing, it can only be used to advantage when used safely. Workers get hurt, and even killed, by electricity because they do not understand its safe use and are not taught how this great and mysterious force can be employed with safety.

The electric light on the end of a long cord is often used to enable men to clean out tanks, pits, holes and tunnels and if there is no flammable gas it does not matter very much if the bulb breaks. But when there is flammable gas in the bottom of the tank, disaster may result if the glass of the bulb breaks. Various plans are used to protect the bulb and to keep the connecting cord safe from abrasion. The need for these precautions is illustrated by a recent case in a laboratory up-State. A man went into a tank to clean it out. He knocked against the bulb; it broke and this started a slight explosion which caused a fire and nearly burned the man to death. When tanks such as this are cleaned out one man should stand by to see that nothing dangerous occurs. The tank should first be thoroughly aired and if a light bulb must be used it should be protected by a wire screen and used with the utmost caution.

J. D. HACKETT,
Director, Division of Industrial Hygiene—New York State Industrial Bulletin.

The strongest bond of human sympathy, outside the family relation, should be one uniting all working people of all nations, tongues and kindred.—Lincoln.

Houses, Like Cars, Show Substantial Trend

By Electrical Workers' Journal's Housing Authority

"**W**HAT do you think will be the result of this mass-production, metal house agitation?" was asked of a New York residential contractor.

"Two or three years from now we will have much better designing of small homes in present day accepted materials, that is what I look for and hope for," he replied.

Under the spur of competition the substantially constructed, thoroughly modern house is now being redesigned to prune away the unnecessary features that add to the cost, and to bring it, still in its substantial, hand-constructed form, within the reach of the wage earner with \$2,000 a year income.

Until wage earners are steadily employed and feeling reasonably secure of an adequate income, the metal house has not the ghost of a chance of being sold in such numbers as to make mass-production profitable.

And when wage earners do feel sure of an adequate, steady income, we do not believe they are going to invest their savings in portable tin novelties. The midget car was going to revolutionize the automobile industry two or three years ago. It made very few sales; what happened was that the trend for smaller, more economical cars was interpreted in terms of their own products by old established motor manufacturers such as Chevrolet, Ford and Chrysler, with success.

A house, even more than an automobile, is a big investment; and we have become mighty wary about our investments. What American owners want is something very substantial; simple but handsome in style, large enough for future family needs, and as modern as they can possibly afford. Probably the truest expression of this ideal is the six-room colonial house, in brick or frame, with one or two baths, hot water heat, and many electrical conveniences. Although this investment is rarely within the reach of the wage earner, a metal box house is not an acceptable substitute.

How to bring the best features of the substantial type into the \$4,000 to \$5,000 house without sacrificing structural strength or construction quality, is a problem that is getting a good deal of attention from architects, builders, ma-

Workers and other prospective owners are wary of the experimental when they make life-time investments. House standards clearly defined in low-cost field.

terial dealers, trade associations, manufacturers, and union craftsmen. The construction industry is not going to see its business go into the factory without putting up a fight, particularly when it is in a strong competitive position and can offer better values than in many years—values which experts estimate are really superior to those cited by mass production promoters.

Steel Only a Promise

Paul E. Kendall, advertising manager of the Long Bell Lumber Sales Corporation, writing in *The Carpenter*, expresses the opinion of many when he says:

"Now you and I know that the steel house as yet has made no such progress

as the public thinks it has made, but they are striving with all their wealth and engineering skill to get a house that will 'beat wood.' And it is reasonable to suppose that eventually they will achieve success, unless those interested in wood construction abandon Model T construction ideas and develop a new method to meet or stay this competition. It certainly will be too late to do anything of that kind that would be effective should the steel house once get some real hold on the home building market."

Just as the demand now is for a low-priced car with sturdy strength and quality features, so the demand will be, when the building business picks up, for a low-priced house with inherent quality. Architects, who have let the small house field slip away from them through neglect, must turn to economy designs if they are to win it back. "The architectural profession as a whole has not done its best by the small house," says the *American Builder and Building Age*.

Expensive practices must be put out of the picture. Novelty styles, gingerbread, wasted space, everything elaborate and wasteful must be abandoned.

Simple, beautiful, staunch, compact, substantial—these are adjectives to describe the small house of tomorrow. John Public will not be interested in investing money in a home unless he is offered an investment that will endure.

In the September JOURNAL we turned the searchlight on a specific example of the prefabricated steel house. We declared that for the amount of interior living space offered it was higher priced than the same design if built in brick; much higher than if built in frame construction. The statement was based on cubage of the house. Now our contention has been substantiated by comparative figures.

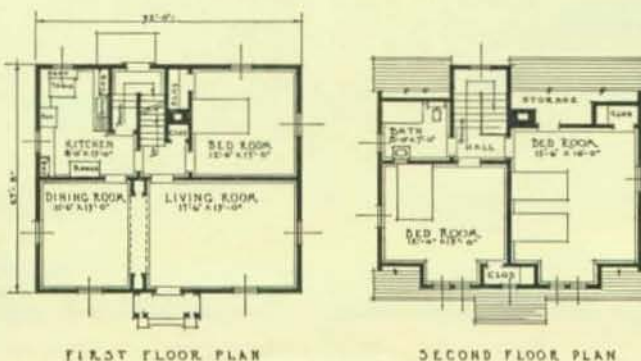
Clay products manufacturers are urged by the Brick and Clay Record to work with their architects developing designs of small homes of brick and tile which can sell below the \$5,000 mark. The trade journal cites homes which have been built in Chicago and Cleveland from the designs of C. A. Kirsten, Chicago architect:

"The first house is a French model with solid brick walls; the second is an English model with solid brick walls on the

(Continued on page 43)



This small house, drawn for the Electrical Workers' Journal by John M. Spence, Washington designer, shows how attractive and practical the economical house may be. Ample room is provided in the attic story for two large bedrooms and bath, with another bedroom on the first floor. Living room, dining room and kitchen are spacious. The simple Colonial exterior with its many windows and green shutters, is a dignified style that will not deteriorate. Good designing has brought this house into the low price range without sacrificing spaciousness or quality.



Los Angeles Moves for Public Telephones

By W. AUTHORSON, L. U. No. 83, Los Angeles

THE question of municipal ownership of public utilities is of vital interest to every taxpayer in the nation, for therein lies the solution of the problem, of lowering the cost of government.

The membership of Local Union No. 83, Los Angeles, Calif., is on record as favoring municipal ownership of public utilities, and if you are a taxpayer, regardless of where you live we invite you to read this article and make comparisons in your own community.

Every citizen of Los Angeles is justly proud of our magnificent city hall building—as taxpayers we are part owners of this beautiful structure, and as we behold the artistic beauty of its architectural design it seems to emanate a cloak of protection against our exploitation by sinister special interests. As we enter its wide open portals this feeling of confidence is amplified by the courteous treatment of the employees and by the smooth efficiency of the personnel of the different departments in transacting business. We leave the building with a sense of ownership and the thought in mind that here in our own building, managed by our own elected officials is a safe place to deposit our tax money.

We may close and bar the wide open door and still gain entrance to our building through the underground ducts of the Southern California Telephone Company. Here we get an entirely different picture. We see the copper tentacles of the Giant Telephone Octopus actually at work sucking the life blood, as represented in tax dollars, out of the public treasury and into the private coffers of the telephone company by the method of exorbitant rental charges for privately owned equipment, cunningly installed in our publicly owned city hall.

If the money received by the telephone company through this underground channel reverted to the taxpayers in the form of higher wages to their employees, or in lower telephone rates to the public there would be some justification for its continuance, but an equalization of this kind will never be considered by the Telephone Company, which, like all other privately owned public utilities, is in business for profit and the extent of that profit is only governed by their ability to gouge the public.

Be it said to the credit of our mayor, John C. Porter, our city council and our county board of supervisors that in ordering a survey of this situation to be made by competent telephone engineers, not employed by the telephone company, they have proven their sincerity in their efforts to lower the cost of government to the taxpayer.

The survey is now practically com-

Citizens are stirred by high rates. Believe service can be improved, and rates lowered through public system.

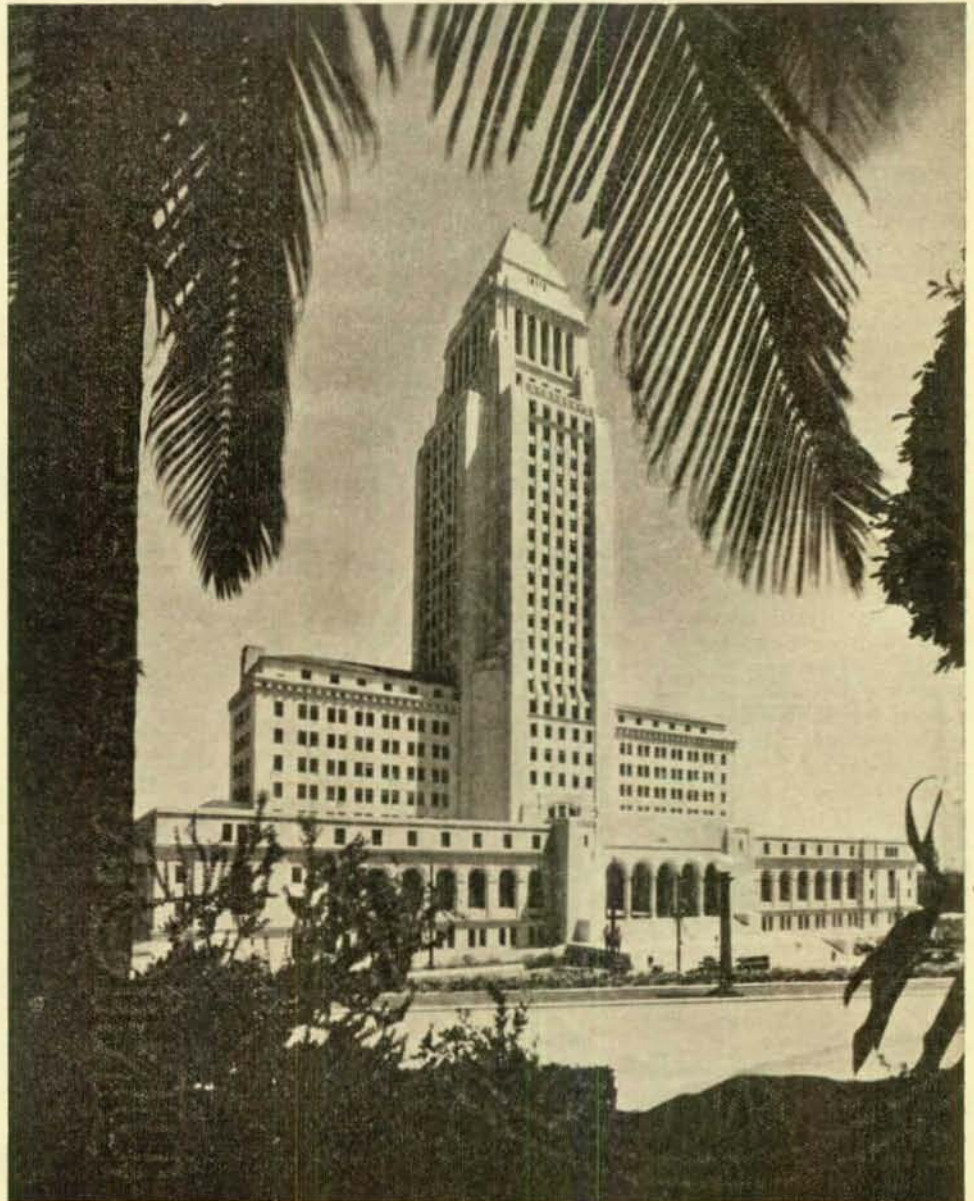
plete and by their special order will be turned over direct to the city council for their consideration. As representatives of the people the council is in duty bound to adhere strictly to the policy of economy of government. Manifestation of this policy will be evidenced by their authorization of the installation of a publicly owned inter-communicating telephone system, connecting all city owned buildings with provision made for uniting with federal, state and county

buildings as well in Los Angeles County for inter-departmental telephonic communication at cost to the taxpayer.

This publicly owned telephone system will, of course, be connected by trunk line for local and long distance service through the facilities of the Southern California Telephone Company; the established rate for this service will be on file with the state railroad commission.

The economic value of this installation to the taxpayers of Los Angeles County can best be proven by the fact that hundreds of manufacturing plants, hotels, theatres, government, state and municipal departments operate their own systems—for example; the United States Government owns over three thousand telephones in the communica-

(Continued on page 43)



Courtesy Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce
THE LOS ANGELES CITY HALL STANDS AS A SYMBOL OF COMMON EFFORT.

Construction Is Main Road to Recovery

By DR. ISADORE LUBIN AND COMPANY

Dr. Isadore Lubin, Brookings Institution, Washington, D. C., a contributor to the *Electrical Workers Journal*, and a recognized economic authority, Whiting Williams, writer and publicist, and Max Stern of the *Scripps-Howard* newspapers, made a notable contribution to economic theory over a nation-wide radio hookup in December.

Though millions of persons heard the discussion over the air, it appears vital enough, and of lasting enough significance to reproduce (in slightly abbreviated form) in this number.

MR. STERN: Dr. Lubin, during the past year we have tried to stimulate employment in several ways. The first was by easing the credit situation. Through both the Federal Reserve system and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation we attempted to thaw the frozen assets of many of our financial institutions and make funds available for legitimate business. Evidently, this did not turn the trick.

The next step was the stimulation of public works. From what you said over this network last Saturday night, I take it that neither the 320 million dollars of federal construction nor the program of self-liquidating public works contemplated by Congress when it passed the Relief Act last summer has really gotten under way.

Now there are many who insist that the value of public works as a means for stimulating employment is greatly exaggerated. What do you think?

DR. LUBIN: You're giving me a big order, Mr. Stern. As I see the unemployment situation today, we have two alternatives. The first is to let things slide until the curtailment of our industrial output so depletes our stocks of goods that the sheer need for raw and finished materials by those who have purchasing power will put people back in productive work. This is a long and slow process, involving much suffering and destitution.

Must Act Deliberately

The other alternative is deliberately to set about to create employment. As you say, the theory that if credit is made available business will forthwith recover, has not worked out. Under our system of private enterprise, the only force that drives employers to extend operations and take on workers is the prospect of profit. And at present that prospect has all but vanished in most lines of industry. If we are going to break the ice, some organization which does not depend on profits for its motive force must start things going. And the only body of that sort is the government.

Now, it happens that the industry which government could most easily revive is the very one which needs stimulation most—the construction industry.

Radio network hears depression cure. Journalist, publicist, and economist "tell world" that slump will yield to intelligent use of public works. Entire ground traversed. Important summary of new economics made.

In prosperous years the value of construction approximates 12 billion dollars, or almost one-seventh of our total national income. But this year's construction will amount to just about one-fifth of the 1928 figure. It is estimated that more than two-thirds of the two and one-half million workers directly connected with the construction trades are today out of work. Now, it happens also that there is need for certain types of government construction which—

MR. WILLIAMS: I'm going to interrupt you there, Dr. Lubin. Granted that what you say is true, you surely are not suggesting that the government could absorb any large portion of these unemployed, no matter how large a building program it undertakes? As I understand it, even in prosperous times the public works expenditures of the federal, state, and local governments, combined, is not more than three billion dollars, or about one-fourth spent on all construction.

DR. LUBIN: That's true. But that three billion, Mr. Williams, has been cut by more than a third during the past year. Now, it has been suggested that

various divisions of our government step in at this time, and instead of cutting down public works expenditures increase them to several times what they ordinarily would be. This would not only stimulate employment in the construction industry, but, immediately, profitable orders would flow into the iron and steel, hardware, cement, lumber, and a couple of dozen other industries which furnish the materials used in construction. These orders would act as a sort of primer for the entire business machine. Railroad traffic would pick up. The wages of those re-employed by the building and the material industries would purchase clothes, shoes, and furniture. That would create still more jobs. And so on down the line.

Wide Diffusion of Money

MR. WILLIAMS: That's a real point. As our friend Otto Mallery once put it, "Construction money is soon spent for a thousand commodities that have nothing to do with public works; for instance, chocolates, copper, telephone wire, teddy bears, and soap."

MR. STERN: But how are we going to start public works when everybody is crying for economy in government? The tax burden is already heavy. And it looks as if we're in for still more.

DR. LUBIN: There is no reason, Stern, why the cost of a construction program should necessarily be covered by the current tax bill. Let's take the case of the new post office building under construction down on Pennsylvania Avenue,

(Continued on page 45)



Courtesy National Housing Association
MODEL HOUSING, LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY, HERTS, ENGLAND

Worker Describes Ravages of Unemployment

By JAMES E. GORMAN

FOR quite a long time it has been an American practice to glance occasionally at European and Asiatic reports of the impoverished condition of its laboring classes and when some particularly unhappy feature has been developed, we have either been affected emotionally or mentally according to our natures. The emotional have expressed themselves in words of commiseration, while the hard-boiled practicalists have shrugged their shoulders and complimented themselves upon being citizens of a nation wherein the capitalist system functions for the well-being of all.

This was the mental hypnotism which prevented us from seeing further into the background of the picture which we had conjured up in our complacency. Consequently we could not see the approaching figures of hunger, want, and starvation. When these did come into the foreground, to be observed by all who had eyes to see, the Pollyannas and 100 per cent Americans spent weeks and months in ludicrously attempting to shoo them away. The figures came forward more boldly, and the shooers used all of their forces of publicity to denounce the newcomers as being "the agents of Bolshevism" or as being the "overflow of pestilential Europe." When this failed to still the rising clamor, they fell back on the old standby, that "they are but short-time visitors, so bear with them in patience, for prosperity is about to turn the corner, and, on its appearance the unwelcome guests would scurry back to the countries wherein the bless-

Worker-writer gives first-hand impressions of the effects of long period of joblessness upon men, women, children and families. Enumerates the toll taken by unemployment.

ings of mass production are unknown."

Prosperity failed, however, to turn the corner despite the incantations of Herbert Hoover and his associates, the prayers of the churches, the burning and burying of "Old Man Depression", the magic formulas of the organs of publicity and the coaxings and bleatings of financial and economic experts. The Pollyannas were silenced in the face of the steadily approaching group, obliterating the previous picture and presenting one with actualities sharply outlined. To them it seemed that prosperity had deserted its friends or had lost its way among the many twists and turns of the "system".

A friend once told me that he was a member of a group which had searched every corner of New York City and other places and at no time had they seen anything resembling prosperity. To the contrary, they had observed thousands of homeless men and women seeking food and shelter. This, in itself, is deplorable but there are also other factors which are slowly but surely disintegrating the moral fibre of American

manhood and womanhood. I am referring particularly to the unemployed, but, in passing, I may say that those who are so fortunate as to retain employment are feeling the lash of fear, with a mental state engendered by insecurity.

During the past winter I was enabled to come into close contact with a considerable number of the jobless and in my studies of them, I noted the quick collapse of moral standards which prolonged unemployment had brought about. Most of them were skilled workmen, but a year or two of unavailing search for employment had destroyed whatever ambitions they may have had. In many cases it is probable that should industry revive they would not fit into the mechanical scheme—at least not where former efficiency is demanded. In other words, they are rapidly drifting into the ranks of unemployables.

In desperation large numbers have broken loose from domestic ties. The search for work has separated them from their families and it is one of the many problems which social workers are confronted with.

Thousands of wives and children are weeping for husbands and fathers who may never return, and should they be driven back they will be but wrecks to be taken care of by local community funds.

In the meantime they are keeping body and soul together in the bread lines, and, if fortunate, in the charity flophouses. This way of living soon deprives a man of self-respect and in time

(Continued on page 42)



THESE CROWDS WAITING IN LINE FOR THE SIMPLEST OF FARE HAVE NOT SHRUNK DURING THE LAST FEW MONTHS

Predicts National Interlocking Police Radio

By VETERAN RADIO MAN

RADIO is now one of the greatest factors in the prevention of crime and the apprehension of criminals, and another service is added to the many already credited to this swift and modern method of communication.

The modern radio telephone as a weapon for the further suppression of crime offers many possibilities. The use of a properly organized radio system by the police will inspire considerable fear

Sees crime fought by mobile system. Cites also new field for organization. Police electricians should be competent, resourceful and reliable. Union men best able to serve departments.

prints and photographs of wanted criminals. It will be some time yet, however, as these people are slow to grasp at new methods which have not been pioneered. The writer (and I'm sure many of the old-time radio men) offered the idea of police radio as early as 1922 and 1923 but was informed that the cops would spend their time listening to the music, etc., etc.

Cites Need of Interlocking System

The crying need today is an interlocking service of intercity police radio systems which, properly organized, would bring home the full force of the old platitude, "Crime does not pay."

So much for the police and crime end of this wonderful radio system, but there is another important angle involved. When we think of radio in any of its phases we are prone to forget the men behind the scenes—the radio men who operate and maintain the broadcast transmitter and the radio men who install and maintain the receiving sets in the cruising police cars.

Mr. Busy Business Manager, shake hands with Mr. Worried Radio Man—and I want you both to know that this is an official introduction. It is time you got to know and see more of each other. Mr. B. B. M., if you look at the correspondence columns of the October and November issues of our JOURNAL you will learn more of the radio man by a perusal of the letters from our worthy

(Continued on page 41)



Courtesy D. C. Metropolitan Police Department
WASHINGTON, D. C., POLICE CAR, RADIO EQUIPPED

within the criminal mind due to the rapidity with which it enables the police to cope with lawless situations.

Radio transmission is instantaneous. Information broadcast from police headquarters is received immediately by those of the police force provided with suitable receiving sets and all officers receive the information at the same time.

With the time element so cut down the breaks are all against the lawbreaker and more often than not his plans are rudely interrupted by the arrival of the police.

Radio affords one of the best means of improving the service of the police department. In those cities where radio systems have been installed and police cars equipped with receivers tests under actual conditions have proved that fact conclusively. Districts which had previously given unending trouble were easily controlled through the medium of radio.

A group of thieves stick up a bank—a cashier touches off an alarm system connected with the police headquarters or an observant citizen 'phones the police station—the information is immediately broadcast to cruising police cars, one of which may be only two or three squares away. The result is that the police are soon on the scene; before

the disconcerted thieves can even scoop up the loose cash, they are in custody.

Greatly Increases Mobility

Radio is also proving to be a great assistance in other phases of police work. Cruising cars may be quickly directed to the scene of a fire, accident, riot or other disturbances. Descriptions of escaping criminals may be broadcast making it possible to head them off in their flight. In short radio is making for greater mobility and therefore for greater efficiency in the police force.

In fifty cities in one month of 1932 radio equipped cars accounted for 12,676 arrests; property valued at \$386,953 was recovered and 155,-

657 emergency calls were answered within an average time of one minute two seconds for each call. A population of 32,585,000 was served by 2,255 cars.

Detroit has the honor of being the first city in the United States to install radio for police purposes, their system going into operation April 7, 1928, with two cruising cars equipped with receivers. Until this time many other cities had called upon the cooperation of local broadcasting stations during a certain period each day for the purpose of giving out stolen car and missing person reports. This system, of course, had little or no advantage over the old pull-box method and was more or less hap-hazard, generally relying, in an emergency, on some listener informing the nearest policeman.

No doubt with television here the next thing in police radio system will be the broadcasting of actual finger-



Courtesy D. C. Metropolitan Police Department
THIS "INTERIOR" OF A POLICE RADIO CAR SHOWS THE SIMPLE BUT POTENT RADIO APPARATUS

Horse Doctors Can't Repair Motor Cars

By WILLIAM HABER, Michigan State College

HEREWITH are presented reviews of four significant books by Dr. William Haber, of Michigan State College:

Successful Living in the Machine Age, by Edward A. Filene, Simon and Schuster publishers.

The Labor Movement in Post-War France, by David J. Saposs, Columbia University Press, publishers.

A History of the French Labor Movement, 1910-1928, by Marjorie Ruth Clark, University of California Press, publishers.

The Masquerade of Monopoly, by Frank Albert Fetter, Harcourt Brace and Company, publishers.

The Discovery of the Consumer's Dollar

"Successful Living in the Machine Age," by Edward A. Filene (Simon and Schuster, 1931).

To Mr. Filene the United States has been going through a Second Industrial Revolution, in many respects more vital and far-reaching than the Russian revolution. This revolution has changed our whole social order. It necessitates an abandonment of our old ways of thinking, of living and of working. It is the machine age and its chief characteristic is mass production. If properly understood it will liberate the masses from the struggle for mere existence and enable them, for the first time in human history, to give their attentions to more distinctly human problems. To live successfully in the machine age requires a somewhat different understanding of our problems than in the past. For mass production, as Mr. Filene correctly points out, influences nearly all of our relationships, the family, leisure, housing, employment, wages, credit, politics, education and religion. In addition it requires a revision in our attitude on many problems, such as the tariff, world peace, and the banking system.

The central thesis of Mr. Filene's book can be briefly stated: Poverty and misery in this country are no longer necessary and there is no need to learn another industrial technique in order to abolish these. It is only essential to apply the technique already here. This can be done by recognizing the obvious fact that mass production requires mass consumption. Higher wages, therefore, benefit employers as well as workers. The trade unions and strikes have thus been a blessing in disguise to the very employers against whom they have been directed. Cutting wages and opposing trade unions who seek to maintain them is in his opinion no sign of industrial statesmanship. Business necessity requires mass buying power through high wages, low prices, more leisure and "a

Business man, Haber reveals, denounces wage-cuts as depression cure. Likens cure to misapplication of knowledge. Four widely different books reviewed by expert on labor relations.

higher and ever higher standard of living." Every business depends upon the mass consumer's dollar and "must be fighting to preserve that dollar as earnestly and as constantly as he can be depended upon to fight for the preservation of his own business." This requires maximum efficiency to reduce waste in industry so as to make possible lower prices. It requires in addition the recognition that credit and banking have social functions and must be directed toward consumers' credit.

Mr. Filene criticizes the bankers in the United States for urging wage deflation. Such advice is like applying the technique of the veterinarians to the troubles of a motor car.

With this central thesis out of the way, Mr. Filene writes interestingly and often with great wisdom on many aspects of life in the machine age. Business men, he states, should cease wasting their energy against the "dole," face the facts and "accept some form of state unemployment insurance as inevitable, and bend their efforts toward securing legislation designed to do the greatest amount of good and the least amount of harm."

Shorter hours of labor are desirable because leisure is necessary for mass consumption. But unless shorter hours are accompanied by increased production and higher wages, it will not provide a solution to unemployment. It will share work but will not cure unemployment. The latter can be achieved by organizing the production and distribution of more wealth.

Finally, business must undertake social planning because the machine age has brought about a social revolution in which the life of all people, business and government, is interdependent. Mass production requires planning, not to preserve people's rights, but to preserve their buying power.

Mr. Filene is a successful business man. He represents the point of view of the socially intelligent employer and business leader. He has written out his ideas on the impact of the modern business system on life in an engaging and provocative manner. Many of the ideas he states have been stated by labor leaders for a quarter of a century. Employers and workers will be stimulated in reading his book.

The Labor Movement in France

David J. Saposs' "The Labor Movement in Post-War France" (Columbia University Press) and "A History of the French Labor Movement, 1910-1928" by Marjorie Ruth Clark (University of California Press, 1930).

The labor movement in France has made a right-about-face since the War. After many years of experimenting with the radical syndicalist philosophy and with the general strike it is now striving to emulate the trade unionism of the west, primarily of England and the United States. To this end French unions are finding the value of high dues, benefit features, control of strikes and of responsible collective bargaining.

Before the War the labor unions in France possessed greater solidarity and organization unity. At present the unions are split; in place of one federation there are four. The largest is the C. G. T. (Confederation General du Travail). Before the War this organization included nearly all the organized workers in France. Its present membership is about 750,000. Its philosophy is mildly socialistic and reformist and comes closest of the French groups to the point of view of the American Federation of Labor in its trade union outlook.

Next in importance is the C. G. T. U. (General Confederation du Travail Unitaire) with about 400,000 members. This is the communist group and its economic philosophy is radical and revolutionary. It has retained much of the pre-war syndicalism then common to most French workers. The communists are active mostly among unorganized workers, but maintain a stable membership in some industries.

There are also two other federations of much lesser influence, one of about 100,000 members, representing the Catholic workers, who in many European nations maintain separate organizations. A fourth federation with a negligible 10,000 members, espouses the pure syndicalist philosophy once so common in France.

Thus in 1930 the combined membership of all the unions of France do not exceed 1,500,000. In 1919 over 2,000,000 French workers, about 25 per cent of the gainfully employed workers, were in unions. At present only about 19 per cent of the workers are organized. The loss came primarily as a result of the weakening of the unions in three basic industries—textile, building and metal. French workers are best organized in semi-public industries such as coal, railways and transportation. More than

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Planners' Problem: Can Wages Be Upheld?

By WILLIAM E. RASCH, American Federation of Teachers, L. U. No. 2, Chicago

WE are drifting toward a future United States in which a government-created planning commission will operate to secure the greatest economic good for the greatest number of its citizens. If the labor union is to survive (and there is no doubt that it will), and to take its proper place in helping to organize and direct this government-created planning commission, then it is supremely necessary that we keep all the membership we have, and turn none of it loose to work against us. It may even be advisable to continue member cards in force during periods of unemployment by remitting the dues; any insurance features would, of course, have to be suspended for the period.

The whole history of organized labor has been a series of cycles in which we first fought to reduce the working hours per day, frequently having to accept no greater wage rate per hour, which meant temporarily a reduced weekly wage. Then when employment conditions warranted it, a raise was obtained in the hourly rate. We have in this way successively increased our weekly wage, and decreased our length of working day, until we now collect more real wages for an eight-hour day with five days a week, than we used to collect for a six-day week of 12 hours per day.

Short Day, Controlled Wages

Economists who have the facts and figures tell us that all the needed work of the world can be done if every available worker works six hours per day and five days per week, with a month's vacation each year. With the rapid increase in modern machine methods still continuing unabated, we suspect that a five-hour day of four days per week will soon be more nearly correct. It is certain that we are to have in the future many more than the 30 machine-men per capita than we have now, and we will do well to recognize this in time. What about the future of our electricians who are now creating entire factories manned by electricity with hardly a human being in attendance? Think of the future factory built along the same plans as some of our present-day automatic sub-stations. Only a handful of electricians will be needed for maintenance and replacement. Surely our electricians have a vested interest in the industries and buildings and electrical equipment which their own handiwork and highly developed skill have created. (Here I include the electrical engineers with the electricians, as any engineer who is not a member of organized labor ought to be, since he is sharing in all the advantages it provides.) It seems that these skilled workers are entitled to as good working conditions and hours of labor in the future, as are the bankers who have helped so much to make a mess of things. Had the bankers been even half so well

Worker presents some mighty significant considerations for national planning commission, which he sees as an inevitable fulfillment of present needs.

advanced in human and credit engineering as the electrical workers are in electrical engineering, our present terrific breakdown could never have occurred. Bankers have no effective program even today; they merely ride with the tide and get rich when credit is expanding, and then when credit is contracting they do their utmost to help it contract, instead of getting together on an international program to maintain and stabilize their Frankenstein, "Credit," on an even keel.

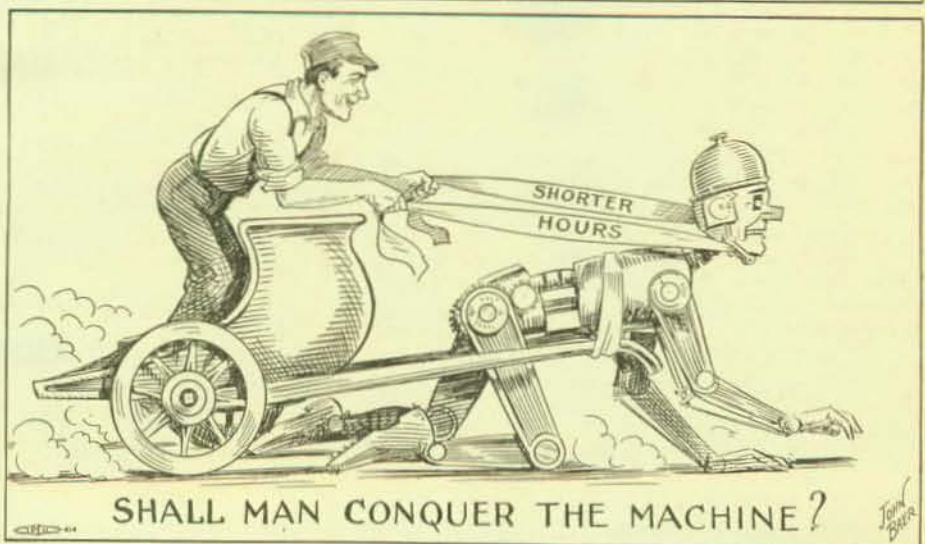
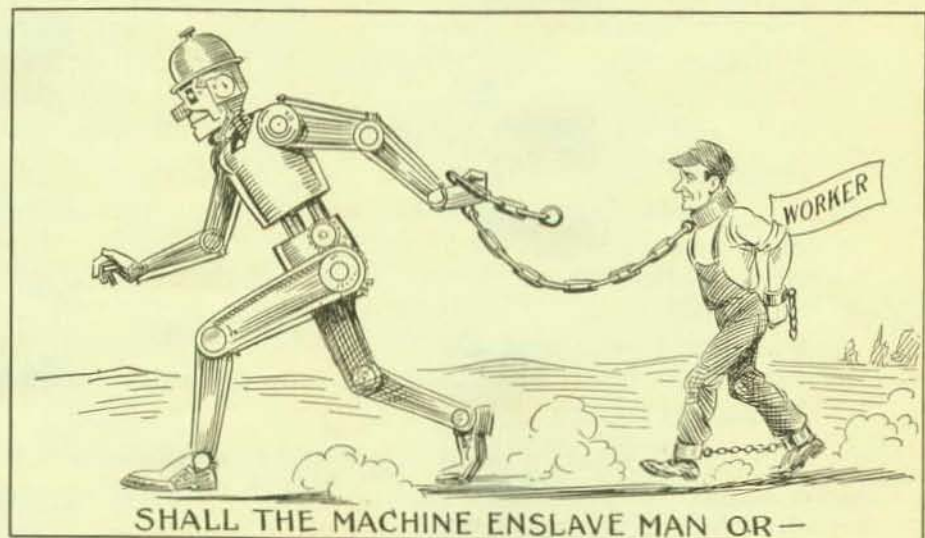
It may be necessary in the future, in

order to control unorganized labor groups, to institute a federal income tax upon all labor in excess of 20 hours per person per week. Such an income tax would undoubtedly be just as confiscatory as will be the future tax on inheritances and large unearned incomes. This is the only way out if we are ever to have a weekly wage sufficient to purchase back the things we are able to produce, and still wish to provide work for all those who need work. (We still have to feed and clothe and shelter them if we do not let them work.)

Union Men Capable

It is reasonable to suppose that the organized building trades workers of America, having once firmly established a 20-hour workweek at a decent living wage, would of their own volition offer to donate enough hours of labor per week to rebuild all the slums in America. To

(Continued on page 46)



"WHICH?"

Shall Our 1933 Convention Be Held?

A Statement of, and a Referendum
Submitted by, the International
Executive Council

TWO years ago the membership voted not to hold the 1931 Brotherhood convention. That vote amended our law to hold conventions every four years instead of every two. The next convention is due this coming September, at Toronto, Canada. Can it, and should it be held? This must be decided by the members.

Our local unions have never faced such terrible conditions. Many of their members have lost their homes. Many have been denied a roof over their heads. Thousands and their families are actually in want of food, clothing and shelter. The International Office has received hundreds of appeals from local unions for financial aid, which cannot possibly be granted. Most of our local unions are flat broke. They can't send delegates.

Thousands of members cannot pay their dues to their local unions. Working members are being taxed to keep up the cards of the destitute. Many of the destitute are forced to struggle to pay their own per capita tax. Many bank failures have wiped out the funds of members and local unions and increased the suffering.

The International Office is also having a desperate time trying to make ends meet. Rigid economies have been made. International Officers have reduced their salaries 50 per cent. International Representatives are paid for only half time. The International Office has cut operating expenses about \$18,000 a month. Despite all this, the International is now operating at a deficit of about \$10,000 a month. More economies must be made unless conditions improve soon.

We want to point out that the International Office does not get the \$2 a month per capita tax to use solely for operating expenses, as many believe. The following shows where it goes:

90c	for Insurance
10c	" Monthly Journal
37c	" Pensions
7c	" Conventions
3c	" Defense
53c	" General Uses
<hr/>	
\$2.00	

This means our International operates on LESS ACTUAL per capita tax than any organization—and this despite our numerous interests, various branches, and operations in all fields. Our organization is not confined to any one industry or field, the same as other organizations. We must go wherever electricity goes—and this greatly increases our problems and costs.

The last three conventions took the following amounts from the International funds:

Seattle, 1925	-----	\$107,803.40
Detroit, 1927	-----	79,935.30
Miami, 1929	-----	112,372.35

This is not counting the thousands of dollars spent by local unions to send their delegates.

Under all these conditions, should the Brotherhood attempt to hold the convention this year? The Executive Council believes only a handful of locals could send delegates. The convention would represent only a small per cent of the membership.

The International Officers—including the Council members—state their position as follows:

"Conventions should be held to pass upon the officers, the laws and policies being followed. We do not feel that there would be any important changes suggested at this time. Conventions are necessary for a check on officers, no matter whom or how good. They are also necessary so as to review—so delegates may form contacts, may confer, may carry back information and experience, and so they may know their officers and may correct any errors.

"But our desires—and the condition this Brotherhood faces—are two different things. Because of the bad economic conditions, our local unions cannot finance the sending of delegates to a convention without sacrificing other local union interests. Neither can the International finance a convention under present conditions—because of reduced per capita payments. We don't see how a representative convention can be held this year.

"Most of our local unions had to cut their operating expenses to the bone. So has this office. Still we face a very serious situation. We cannot escape these facts despite our views. Again we say there seems to be no choice when we consider the facts."

The above frank statement of the officers clearly explains their position. All feel that conditions are such that the Brotherhood should not attempt to hold the convention this year, and that it should be postponed for two more years.

Therefore, in view of all the conditions stated, the International Executive Council feels duty-bound to submit the question to a referendum of the membership. The Council does this in accord with the authority granted in Article IX, Section 6—page 10; and in Article XXX, Section 1—page 49—of the Constitution.

The Council recommends that Article II, Section 1, of the Constitution be amended by adding the following paragraph thereto:

"However, because of the business depression and the poor financial condition of the local unions, and the I. O., the convention due in September, 1933, should be postponed from 1933 to 1935."

The Executive Council calls attention to the fact, that if the membership decides not to hold the 1933 convention, the officers will continue to serve as the law provides—"until their successors are elected and qualified." It is also understood that when the convention is held, it will convene in Toronto, Canada.

Fraternally submitted by

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,

CHARLES M. PAULSEN,
G. W. WHITFORD,
F. L. KELLEY,

M. P. GORDAN,
EDWARD NOTHNAGLE,
JAMES F. CASEY,

G. C. GADBOIS,
C. F. OLIVER,
J. L. MCBRIDE.

Widening Fields of Work for Electricians

WHAT research persons might call a confused trend is apparent in the field of electrical science. Whereas invention and discovery tend to void skill and obviate special knowledge for most workmen, electrical workers are made aware that invention and discovery are providing new fields of work and placing ever-increasing demands upon the men who work with electricity.

Some of the new lines of work suggested are:

Electronic and vacuum tube.
Automatic equipment of all kinds in the industrial motor field.

Ever advancing course in electrical science makes greater demands upon the humblest worker in field. Confused trends seen.

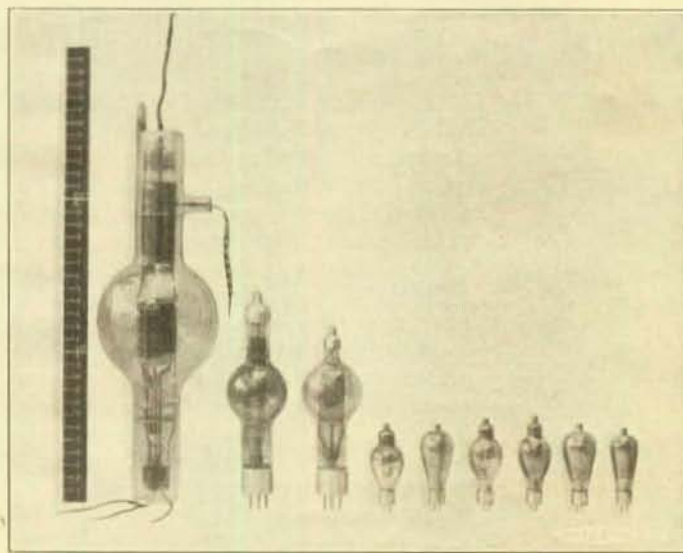
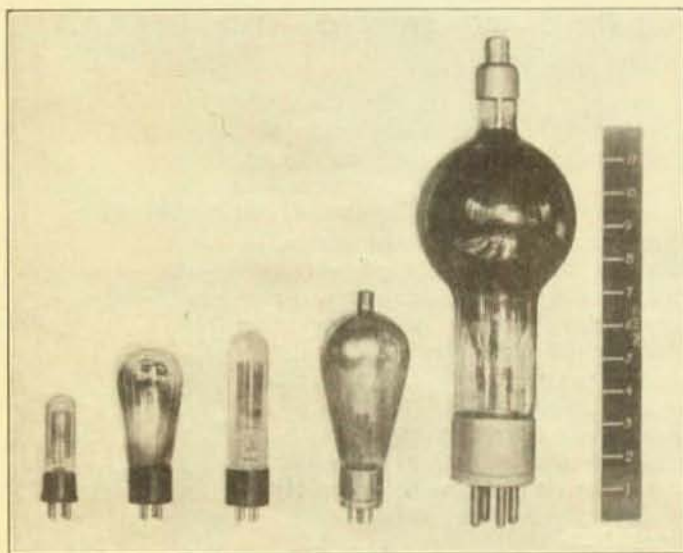
series of short copper rods project from each vertical line.

The new transmitter receiver economizes the energy thrown into the ultra-short waves. These waves which approach light waves in rapidity should

of the problems he encountered involving a knowledge of circuit connections or motors and control. The more ambitious apprentice could increase his technical knowledge considerably by home study or attendance at evening trade schools.

"Today, due to continual changes, we find our industry facing entirely different problems in the training of not only apprentices but also the older journeyman. In fact, it looks like everyone from the office boy up to the boss himself will have to put in most of his spare time studying to keep up to date."

Mr. Svendsen believes that more and



THE VACUUM TUBE AND ITS DERIVATIVES OPEN UP REMARKABLE NEW FIELDS FOR ELECTRICAL WORKERS AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS.

New exterior building illumination systems.
Lighting of athletic fields.
Built-in low intensity interior units.
New gas tube units.
Oil burners.
Refrigerators.
Air-conditioning apparatus.

The new World's Fair at Chicago is expected to stimulate increased interest in these new fields of endeavor.

The possibility of private radio systems is suggested by new developments in radio made by Marconi. Marconi has fit into simple compass no larger than a handbag an ultra-short radio set that will enable a person to talk to another person miles distant. The cost of operating this equipment is no more than the cost of keeping a 30-watt incandescent bulb of light. It will be possible, it is believed, to put this set on the market at a reasonable cost. Marconi has been communicating with such sets as far as 180 miles distant. The significant feature of the short wave set is said to be the transmitter receiver. This is described as consisting of four vertical copper rods curved and placed in such a way that they outline a parabolic basin. A

behave like light and travel only in straight lines.

Recognizing the ever-widening field for electricians George P. Svendsen, an electrical contractor, urges constant training for electricians in electrical contracting, the official organ of the National Association of Electrical Contractors. Mr. Svendsen says:

"One can pick up almost any electrical trade magazine or listen in on any meeting of Electragists and see or hear many suggestions for improving conditions in the electrical contracting business. There is one subject, however, that is seldom mentioned in these discussions but which is rapidly increasing in importance each day. This is the complex problem of technological education which now confronts the electrical contracting industry.

"One does not have to go back many years to find a period when the four-year apprentice system for training journeyman electricians was entirely adequate. The construction methods in use were not so elaborate or varied but what the average apprentice could become fairly skilled in the manipulative procedure within his four-year period. He could also absorb the necessary technical knowledge required to understand most

more technical knowledge is needed to follow the electrician's trade. He says:

"The journeyman's problem will be similar to the foreman's. He will find that there will be less demand on his manipulative skill and more call for technical knowledge. For the good of his employer and himself, he will attend a trade extension class or try to keep up to date by home study. If he is in the industrial service branch of his business, he will find it continually more difficult to hold his job without increasing his knowledge of not only his own electrical apparatus but of allied mechanical equipment as well."

What are you going to do about the school question? You believe in free schools. Why don't you also believe in free school children? Are you willing that nine-tenths of our children shall forever be driven out of school by poverty while they are still in the grammar grades? What kind of citizenship do you expect from ignorance? A republic can be no wiser than its people—what kind of a republic do you expect to rear upon education that is stopped in the grammar grades? How monstrous is a civilization that denies to millions of adults the right to work while compelling children to leave school to work.—Allan Benson.

Popular Experiments With Scrip—No Money

MONEY is scarce. Money is scarce even though there is a great deal of money in banks. This is due either to bank hoarding or to the lazy and inequitable system of distribution that allows money that is not in circulation to circulate among a constantly narrowing section of the population. If the American nation is looked upon as an organism, money may be likened to life sustaining blood. Without this blood of life the nation or sections of it perish. But these sections do not perish willingly. What we are seeing therefore are the efforts of many sections of the nation to sustain themselves without money or with a substitute for money.

One of the most interesting experiments is in Yellow Springs, Ohio. Yellow Springs is a small college town set in a farming area. Yellow Springs has undertaken to stimulate business and has done so, it is said, successfully, by the issuing of paper scrip for currency. According to press reports it works this way:

"A farmer possessing 100 bushels of potatoes, but no cash, wants a carpenter to repair his barn. The carpenter, perhaps otherwise unemployed, is willing to take his pay in commodities rather than cash, but doesn't want exclusively potatoes.

"So the farmer sells his potatoes to the exchange, which pays him in scrip; the farmer then hires the carpenter, paying wages with this scrip, and the carpenter spends the scrip at the exchange, buying potatoes or other things he needs. If either the carpenter or the farmer has some scrip left over he can keep it indefinitely and spend it any time he wants to.

"Theoretically at least, this scrip, or other like it, might by common consent be used instead of money in all ordinary business dealings in this, or a much larger territory. What the limits of practicability may be have not been determined.

"Scrip of the Yellow Springs Exchange is issued on parchment bond paper in denominations of 10 cents, 25 cents, 50 cents, \$1 and \$5, and so popular has the store become that it has had to enlarge its space twice within the last two months. It now has about \$1,000 worth of scrip in circulation and is doing about \$1,000 worth of business weekly. About one-third of this business is in regular cash."

On of the most elaborate experiments is being carried on in Salt Lake City, Utah. Here the scrip idea is spreading on a great scale. There has been formed the society known as the Natural Development Association, taking for its motto, "Human Welfare, Man above Money." This association is incorporated under the laws of the state of Utah. The seat of its principal office is

Evidence that banking system is strangling business is offered by communities where trade is revived through simple expedient of providing new medium of exchange. Unemployed help themselves.

Salt Lake City, and it is reaching out to smaller surrounding towns, including Twin Falls, Pocatello, Preston and Montpelier, Idaho, and Ogden, Logan, Brigham City, American Fork, Lehi, and Provo, Utah. The range of activity is production, exchange and consumption without the use of money. The leading spirit in the movement is Benjamin Stringham, whose book entitled "Natural Government," has attracted attention.

Under the articles of incorporation, the following is cited as the purpose of this co-operative society:

"The business or pursuit of the corporation shall be to conduct a co-operative community business for the sole benefit and welfare of the members of the corporation, and for that purpose to receive from the members of the corporation real and personal property in consideration for bestowing on said members benefits and privileges of membership in the corporation. Also to buy property and hire labor, either from members or from any other persons or firms. To engage in the production of any and all commodities, to borrow money and execute promissory notes, bonds or mortgages on any property of the corporation, to loan money and extend credit in products and commodities, or other property, and exchange personal service for commodities or other things of value, or vice versa. To own property necessary to carry out the purposes of the corporation, and to lease

or sell the same. To operate manufacturing plants, warehouses, power plants, irrigation systems of all kinds. To make binding contracts with its members, providing for liquidated damages in the event of breach of such contracts. To create a reserve fund to stabilize the operation of the corporation, and to invest in any property the board of trustees may deem desirable. To distribute to the members money or other property, as the board of trustees may deem advisable."

The Natural Development Association has been ambitious. It has attempted the operation of two canneries, a tannery, a small oil refinery, a coal mine, a sawmill, a small soap factory, a fruit drying plant and a sewing department. The theory underlying this use of scrip instead of money is explained by Mr. Stringham as follows:

"Until its breakdown, exchange was carried on by means of money. The flow of products from the manufacturing group to the agricultural group was balanced by a counterflow of money from agricultural to manufacture. For the flow of service going out from education to the other groups there was a compensating flow of money from the other groups into the education group. Thus money served to move all our products and services from producer to consumer. They might be said to flow on a stream of money. As long as money circulated in sufficient volume, products did the same.

"Financiers have always had ways of tapping this circulation of money and drawing off small streamlets of it into their own pockets. This was done by means of interest on bonds, mortgages and other forms of debt, by declaring dividends on stocks of gigantic industrial corporations, gambling with stocks on stock exchanges, cornering money by means of the gold standard, etc.

"This process of drawing the money out of circulation in the industrial system into the financial system, from which it could not return, finally dried up the stream of exchange, leaving all our industrial products stranded with no way of moving them to market.

"This has been our industrial condition ever since the fall of 1928. We find want and suffering in every group of the economic system for lack of the products of the other groups. Yet, as we have emphasized, not one group has failed to produce more than plenty for all.

"We see about us the unorganized material comprising all of life's necessities in a chaotic state, while humanity suffers from want and fear. Our old system of merchandising has been thrown into a condition of stagnation. Our social and educational welfare suffers accordingly. What happens to the



FIGHTING THE AGE-OLD FOE

(Continued on page 44)

A. F. of L.—Forum of Social Ideas

BRILLIANT addresses made by men from all walks of life to American labor form a valuable symposium upon national and international problems. This JOURNAL believes in timeliness, and it is because it does, that, now two months following the Cincinnati convention, we publish excerpts from these addresses.

Taxes and Bonus Opposition

By LOUIS A. JOHNSON
National Commander, American Legion

"Therefore, out of virtually one-fourth of all taxes and partly out of that which the big income taxpayers turn over to the government as a just but comparatively small slice of their profits for the year, the disabled veterans received less than one-fourth. Now let me tell this in another way. The veterans received less than one-sixteenth of the total taxation, but virtually none from 99 per cent of taxpayers—less than one-fourth of 1 per cent who pay income and other federal taxes.

The 1930 census shows that there are 29,904,000 families in this country. The number owning their own homes is given as 14,002,000, or 46.8 per cent. Fifteen million rent their homes, pay taxes, local and state on what they own, and no direct federal taxes. There are 1.9 per cent upon which there is no information and we can assume they are renters. Bearing in mind that the local and state taxes fall on all these homeowners and renters and owners of other property, what about the federal taxes whence comes the amounts paid to veterans and which, despite the payments to veterans, have dropped the enormous amount I called to your attention?

"In 1928, the greatest year of prosperity in the United States, 4,070,000 people paid federal income tax. Of that number, 4,028,000, or exactly 99 per cent—all but 1 per cent—paid only one-fifth of the taxes, or \$256,000,000 and those 99 per cent, averaged \$64 on the federal income tax, providing he had an average net income of \$4,670. Take off that \$64 and the income after paying the federal tax is \$4,606, and he is not hurt very much.

"Now the other 1 per cent, the 42,000 people left that constitute that 1 per cent, have incomes exceeding \$50,000, actually averaging \$150,000. After deducting their income tax to the federal government, they still have left \$127,000 and the total income of that group of 1 per cent is \$6,309,000,000. For each dollar paid by that other group, the small paying group, or 1 per cent, the big profit people, paid \$330. This shows you whence the greater portion of the federal funds comes and likewise it shows to you whence comes the opposition to taking care of the disabled veteran. * * *

Now, two months after A. F. of L. convention, ideas, facts and social trends revealed there remain "hot news" for Americans. Hardly a speaker to the convention failed to make record copy still unreported by press.

"Let me read from the Congressional Record of May 18, 1932, page 10903, Volume 75, No. 126: 'Mr. Archibald Roosevelt heads the self-styled National Economy League committee which wants to reduce veterans' relief. In 1930 the Roosevelt Steamship Company, of which Mr. Roosevelt was part owner and a director, secured by a 10-year contract from the government to carry the mail from Baltimore to Hamburg. The distance is 4,077 miles. The contract price is \$6 a mile for 52 trips a year which amounts to \$24,462 a trip or \$1,272,014 a year. The service commenced July 1, 1931. To date the government has actually paid by reason of that contract the sum of \$807,246. Other steamship lines would have rendered the same service for not to exceed \$28,246. Therefore Mr. Roosevelt's company received a gift from the government amounting to \$779,004. One of their vessels went from New York by Plymouth to London a short time ago. It carried two pounds of letters. The statutory price for such service is 80 cents a pound. The Roosevelts received the contract price of \$6 a mile, \$20,214 for the trip or a gift of more than \$20,212. Another steamship company during the last fiscal year rendered service of the value of \$95 but received from the government for this service the sum of \$607,792.50'."

Redistribution of Wealth Needed

By HIS GRACE, THE MOST REVEREND
ARCHBISHOP McNICHOLAS, Cincinnati

"The present crisis means merely the day of reckoning. So far as human endeavor goes, we must all pull together to get out of the depths into clear daylight once more. Your group need not be told that this common effort must serve the common good. Would that capitalists and industrialists could see this as clearly as you see it. I venture to call your attention briefly to some principles that I know you have heard discussed and that your leaders, I know, have seriously studied.

"First, the old order must give way, not by its destruction, as Communism urges, but by abolishing its abuses and by establishing a reign of legal and social justice.

"I do not wish to seem a pessimist, but

I think our country is much more seriously menaced by Communism than we realize, and that the danger will increase unless the three points insisted upon by Pope Pius XI be observed:

"1. Riches must not remain in the hands of a few. The people and the government of this country must never again permit the accumulation of the fabulous fortunes that have been possessed by individuals during the last few decades. The head of the Catholic Church says that it would be flagrantly unjust for labor to seize all the profits, so, likewise, it is flagrantly unjust for capital to seize all the profits. In the past, capital has in most instances done this. The so-called profit-sharing has for the most part been a deception. It has merely been an incentive to speed up work beyond human endurance. The Pope further insists that the 'mutual relations of capital and labor must be determined according to the laws of the strictest justice, called cumulative justice, supported, however, by Christian charity.' If this is observed, we shall have no financial colossus feeding on the very life-blood of the nation; but with justice we shall have open records of business and finance and a fair distribution of the profits earned; nor shall we then have a few rich men controlling the wealth of the nation as trustees and directors of invested funds, which they administer, as Pius XI says, at their good pleasure.

"2. 'The second abuse to be corrected as the old order gives way is that of a few rich men holding and controlling money so as to be able to govern credit, determine its allotment, for that reason supplying, so to speak, the life blood of the entire economic body, and grasping, as it were, in their hands the very soul of production, so that no one dare breathe against their will.'

"3. 'The third abuse is 'the natural result of limitless free competition' which makes might right, and which in most instances makes the mighty without conscience. A few men possessing enormous wealth, and the power that goes with such wealth, become in our democratic country, economic dictators. It is a curious contradiction that the people have been fooled by much talk of democracy and of making our form of government even more democratic, while at the same time our men of wealth have been allowed to become absolute rulers in their respective spheres and thereby to undermine the very foundations of democracy. It is to be hoped that your federation will fight for more real democracy in the industrial world. These few rich men wish to grasp still more power by controlling the state, not in the sense of serving the people as their officials or their legislators, but by demoralizing government agencies and making them subservient. And still their appetite is not sated. They want international

domination, which must inevitably lead to war.

"Every willing and able-bodied man has a right to employment. He has, we may say, a greater right to it than he has to the bread of life, since it is the means of giving him the very bread that sustains life. God has been infinitely generous in giving power to the earth and in storing away in nature, hidden forces which will supply man's every need. Man has been given reason, and genius to deal with these forces. One after another has been discovered in the course of ages. It is clear today that our country could sustain many times its present population, with the assurance of reasonable comforts for every family. The falsity of the position of the birth controllers, who would restrict especially the families of the laboring and trades classes, must be apparent to every thoughtful man. What we must condemn is not large families, but the economic system which does not allow an honest, decent man a wage sufficient to maintain a normal family in comfort. We must abhor that philosophy of life which tells men like you that a family is a luxury that you cannot afford, and that to you must not be given the priceless wealth of dutiful and loving children.

"One of the reasons for fighting the present economic system is to give every man who enters the sacred contract of marriage the opportunity to have a real home, with moderate comforts, and to be able to rear his children in such a way as to fit them for their duties in life. The Catholic Church has in the course of her long life, dealt many times with the question of birth control. Centuries ago she fought Manichaeism and Albigensianism, both of which carried on this propaganda. But today she finds that the modern economic system has developed the cancerous growth of birth-control throughout the world. I would say to your groups: Do not accept the false philosophy of the intelligentsia and many of the rich. Fight for an economic system which by a fair distribution of wealth will mean for the members of your class, justice, comfort, security, and the dispelling of fear of a large family.

"With regard to wages, the general principle is that the workingman should be given a wage sufficient to support him and a normal family in reasonable comfort. The unmarried man has also a right to a family wage, so that he may have something laid aside when he enters the married state. Older children, as they approach manhood and womanhood, naturally can help to support the family. In the rural districts occupation is not lacking in the large family; but in our cities, young men and young women, condemned to idleness, have been intrigued into ways of crime, especially when an insufficient income has made home conditions unbearable. Today a wage contract determines for the average man the extent of his participation in production or his share in the riches of nature. Such a contract does not necessarily imply injustice; but on the other hand, the acceptance of a contract which

may be practically forced upon a poor man does not establish its justice.

"By family wage one must understand a wage sufficient to provide for moderate comforts, the education of children, according to standards approved by reasonable parents and educators, for sickness, accident and old age, and some few possessions to leave to those dearest in life. Children in their tender years, and wives and mothers, should not be constrained by an insufficient income to work outside the home.

"Pope Pius XI urges 'that the wage contract, when possible, be modified somewhat by a contract of partnership. * * * In this way wage-earners are made sharers in some sort in the ownership or management of the profits.'

"Accepting a new arrangement on the basis of a contract or partnership, labor naturally, cannot wait until the net profits are determined. An average wage must be determined in which the average skill and strength of the worker, on the one hand, is considered; while on the other, the average net profits are to be measured, so that both capital and labor will get a fair share. This would mean that capital would have to be satisfied with a smaller return. Of course, capital investment is to be considered, also depreciation, the establishment of a moderate reserve fund to meet crises such as we are now passing through, some protection against sickness and accidents, a just provision on retirement for those who for years have been bound by the contract partnership.

"This may seem to make excessive demands upon our economic system. But we should insist that labor and capital betake themselves from the battlefield and sit down at the conference table as Christian brothers, there to set up a new order of vocational groups, meeting not only by mutual consent, but under the authority of the State. Pius XI insists that in these associations the common interests of the whole group must predominate, and that the activities of the group be directed to the common good.

"The Pope is pleading, remember, for a larger influence of labor in controlling

industry. He is pleading that labor, in the future, have a voice in the distribution of wealth, and that its voice shall be equal to that of capital, under governmental authority. I say without a moment's hesitation that the greatest friend that labor has in the world today is Pope Pius XI. You may not accept his plan at first reading, but it is worthy of your most serious consideration.

"If you can unite with capital, under governmental approval, in controlling industry, you can regulate its output. Some tell us that we should give our inventors a holiday. Some say that the balance of things in the world is disturbed by the excessive number of engineers. Many place the disturbance of the balance between supply and demand on the machine, which is causing overproduction. The greed of the comparatively few rich who, through unrestrained competition, control the wealth of this nation, has made the giant machine a curse instead of a blessing, as God and nature intended it should be. The machine and its output must be measured in terms of humanity and the common good. If individuals and corporations wish to multiply machines merely for gain, without regard to unemployment and the consequent misery of human beings, it should be the duty of vocational groups and of the State to restrain them.

"The machine must be regulated. Through it comfort should be extended not merely to the few, but to the masses. The drudgery of life, and especially of the home, will be done away with through the machine. Whatever will lighten the burden of individuals and make the home more attractive must be regarded as a distinct contribution to society. One can realize how the wheels of industry would again revolve if in every home of our rich land labor-saving machinery were introduced which would give leisure to overworked wives and mothers. If the captains of industry of all nations of the world were interested in the welfare of the common people instead of their own selfish ends, what a blessing would be the multiplication of machines! If our industrialists were guided by the fact that the whole economic question is, first of all, a moral one, involving human beings whose actions have a spiritual value and can merit eternal life, there would be speedy settlement of all our difficulties. If the moral world can have no influence upon them, then only the penalties of government can control them.

"An abuse that has been brought about by our huge modern machines is the merging of industries. Competitors are bought out at ridiculously high prices, and watered stock is then sold to an uninformed and unsuspecting public. This has meant the relocation of factories, mills and offices, transferring them to one central point. The ghost cities and towns of our country stand today as monuments to the greed of malefactors of great wealth. Workingmen with families have put the savings of years into their modest homes, only to find themselves obliged by this centralization of industry either to move to other localities, or perhaps be deprived altogether of work. Those intent on mass production in too many instances have given no thought to their unfair treatment of human beings, or to the destruction of homes and the misery consequent upon it. Their chief concern has been machines, and still more powerful machines, in order to produce at the lowest possible cost. Let all who would make use of our huge machines be controlled by the principles of Christian morality. Let justice and love of their fellowman guide them.

(Continued on page 40)

Daily Bread

"Give us this day our daily bread,"

In anguish, God, I pray,
For there's no bread within our home,
Nothing our hunger to allay.
Oh, Lord, have mercy!

I walk the streets in search of work,
But work I cannot find.

I ask at every agency,
Am turned away; shed tears that blind.
Oh, Lord, have mercy!

I cannot beg, I don't know how,
I've stood securely on my feet,
But everything we've had is gone,
Our needs I don't know how to meet.
Oh, Lord, have mercy!

There still are men who can buy bread,
As once I could, but now
I would be friends with death, for he
Would set me free, I don't care how.
Oh, Lord, have mercy!

—Written by an unemployed woman worker.

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Devoted
to the
Cause



of
Organized
Labor

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We Are Being Bluffed

The American unemployed are being bluffed. American labor is being bluffed. To date, in exactly 39 months of the depression nothing has been done for the unemployed except provide a niggardly private dole, irregular in plan and character.

A public works program has never actually been tried. It still lies upon the books. It has been improperly administered, and it is not too much to say, it has been sabotaged.

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation has wrapped itself in remote dignity, and a cold aloofness from relief problems. It has been more conservative in granting loans to municipalities for relief purposes than private bankers. It has retarded loans. It has done nothing constructive, or reconstructive.

The need for balancing the budget has been misrepresented, used as a fetish to protect shivering millionaires from higher tax rates.

More than a billion dollars of the so-called federal deficit has been charged up by a perverse sort of bookkeeping, which puts loans to the R. F. C. in current expense account. Finally, there are ways to raise new revenue other than through the sales tax, but one would not know it from the caterwauling chorus coming from the bipartisan press. Not a word from the honorable gentlemen of the fourth estate against this least fair of all forms of taxation.

In brief, the serious economic crisis makes more clear than ever the character of the conspiracy against the "community" which goes on constantly under the guise of government for, and by, big business.

The American people are being bluffed. They are becoming aware of the cards against them, but as yet they are taking the stand-off, and liking it.

Way-Out For Rails

While union rail leaders and rail executives were in the midst of wage negotiations in Chicago, there appeared in the Atlantic Monthly a burning indictment of rail management, with an emphatic out-and-out demand for immediate nationalization. The author of the proposal is the distinguished George W. Anderson, former federal judge.

Coming from such a qualified source, it is not surprising that the article got wide attention.

Judge Anderson's point of view may be summed up thus: Rail management has failed. The roads are headed inevitably into bankruptcy. Now is a good time for the government to take them over at a fair evaluation. Judge Anderson is concrete:

"Let Congress create a federal corporation with an authorized capitalization not to exceed 15 billions . . .

"This corporation should be controlled by a board of not less than seven nor more than 11 directors, with salaries equal to those drawn by members of the Interstate Commerce Commission; a majority of the directors should be appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate, for reasonable terms. Minority representation might well be granted to stockholders, and perhaps also to employees, on a scheme of representation to be worked out in detail by the Interstate Commerce Commission. *But control must be by, and in behalf of, the public.* Stockholders will want the 6 per cent dividend earned and paid; employees will want to absorb earnings in higher wages."

Judge Anderson's outspoken proposal is in line with the opinion of other publicists, it is said. What attitude railway union leaders would take toward this turn of affairs is not known. The Plumb Plan has not been in favor for 10 years, but railway union leaders are not blind to the present rail situation and its promise for the jobs of a million workers.

Lesson— to Whom

AMATEUR ELECTRICIAN KILLED WHILE FIXING "STUNT" WITH RADIO

By United Press

Chicago—Samuel Cusmino, 18, amateur electrician, invited some friends over to his house last night and decided to fix up a surprise for them.

He placed his radio in one room and ran a wire from the radio to a microphone in an adjoining room. His plan was to broadcast Christmas greetings by means of the microphone to his guests seated around the radio.

In making a last minute check-up on the wiring, he touched the microphone and fell to the floor, dead, a victim of electrocution.

This incident is repeated more often than press reports indicate. It is no wonder either inasmuch as a great deal of encouragement is being given the amateur wireman by chain stores and mail order houses. Motive: To sell substandard materials. Utility Publications of New York is widely distributing a pamphlet called "Fixing Electrical Things" whose purpose, it announces, is to give "a simple and short description of the use of those electrical devices the householder is learning to *handle himself*; merchandise which the consumer is now purchasing from the electrical counters of the chain store." Utility publications seek to offset possible blame for loss of life by vigorously warning the customer to whom it is trying to sell against the dangers of electricity. The warning may excuse legally, but the suggestion can not possibly describe the combinations under which danger to life lurks, and it tells nothing about the danger from fire, as a result of using cheap

materials. Moreover it fails to mention the fact that poor wiring is a constant loss to the consumer by permitting current leakage.

It is a cheap, dangerous game the chains are playing. They may be not legally liable, but they are ethically liable for many accidents.

Who Gives Good Management

Judge Anderson's testimony relative to the comparative merits of public and private ownership will startle not a few of our readers. He asserts:

"To my mind it is a sufficient answer to this criticism to say that, after many years of observation of both government and private-corporation bureaucracies, the only government bureaucracies fairly comparable in inefficiency and waste with innumerable private-corporation bureaucracies are the Farm Board and possibly the Shipping Board. In general, government business is managed, both by the federal government and by most state and municipal governments, on sounder and less wasteful lines than private-corporation business. There is less fraud in government administration, and fewer serious errors in the methods and in the policies adopted; private corporations, however, are more successful in concealing both their frauds and their inefficiencies than the government bureaucracies. In general, our government functions with less disregard of essential human rights and interests."

That this reverses the usual formula is apparent, but many accepted formulae have been reversed during the last three years, and not a few more, we predict, will go by the board.

Wiggin Gone But Not Forgotten

The resignation of Albert Wiggin as head of the Chase National Bank, New York's premier bank—Rockefeller money—should mean—but does not, that his cruel and stupid wage cutting policies have proved his undoing. Unfortunately, bankers' policies are not measured by social effects, as statesmen's are, though bankers have more power for good and evil than political leaders.

Wiggin it was who promulgated the wage cut order two years ago, which started the orgy of cutting and re-cutting—a program which sent the business ship deeper into the ooze of inactivity.

When the head of the Chase Bank calls for wage revisions, it is no mere academic gesture. Wiggin himself was director of 40 powerful corporations—controlling the wage destinies of millions.

And what was his fitness for such power? At 17 he went into a bank. At 65 he steps out. The recordable fact about him lying between these years is that he could smile during bank failures. Inasmuch as these failures involved other people's money and not his own, we do not consider his levity a preeminent virtue. He has no gift for social engineering, and yet his job, if it is conducted in terms of its opportunities must presuppose such talents. His is a bank clerk's brain, social training, attainment with a monarch's power—unchecked, unrestrained.

The main problem before the American people today is this

unrestrained, abused power of great bankers. All other problems are dwarfed by this one, and the solution of most of the others wait on this one.

Bills in Congress designed to curb bank abuses will be fought by the bankers until they fit into the banker's own ideas of needed changes. The only power capable of checking the big bankers is the president's own—and unfortunately there have been few instances of his successful endeavor.

Technocracy's Critics

Alarm, bitterness, dismay, ridicule, even hatred were manifested against technocracy and its founders during the last lively month of discussion.

The principal contention of technocracy's critics is that Howard Scott has not made out his case. But neither have technocracy's critics. All of the foes of work-unit-democracy have failed in one single respect: To cite figures to prove that machine production provides for reabsorption of displaced men. If it does, why this share-the-work campaign? It would appear that surface experience as well as higher mathematics favors the technocrats.

With some mysterious explosion technocracy took hold of the public mind. It caught on like a melody from a Broadway musical show, or a gag from the latest radio ad. Why? Perhaps because the experience of each individual, only incompletely comprehended, trembled close upon the conclusions of the engineers.

Even if the technocrats fail to fuse their somewhat metaphysical plan with the mechanics of control, and with the practicalities of the situation, they have performed a service.

They have aided Americans to think in terms of a socialized nation. Production is examined in the light of the whole people, and not as something to make money for this particular group of capitalists.

Tax Ways

While men of little vision are scurrying about looking for a spot to pare down government expenses, the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care, a quasi-official body, makes its report.

The report is diverse and complex, but in its main drive it recommends government aid to millions, who deserve but who do not now have adequate medical care. Everybody should applaud such a report, but how is "state medicine" going to be established without increased government expenses? State medical clinics are only one of a number of socialized activities, which must be set up with government aid and guidance, if America is to pull itself up to the level of its opportunities, needs and duties.

The excellent report of the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care merely dramatizes the conflict which is everywhere apparent as between private exploitation of public function and the public utilization of co-operative forces and methods, which can quickly make for a higher type of collective life, and a better citizenship.

The government must take the lead in the new order, and it can not take the lead now by shaving down its departments, and cutting personnel to the bone.



WOMAN'S WORK



BACK TO FEUDALISM? OR FORWARD TO TECHNOCRACY?

By THE WORKER'S WIFE

"DEMOCRACY is a failure. What we need is a form of feudalism," said a Washington financial reporter, lunching with a group of his conferees. After listening to their protests, he continued:

"In the feudal system, someone is **RESPONSIBLE**. The lord, no matter how he robbed and oppressed his serfs, had to see that they had food and shelter in the winter so they could plant another crop for him in the spring. They were among his possessions, his financial assets, and had to be taken care of. Today we have 12,000,000 workless workers who are liabilities to everyone, including themselves, because nobody wants to be responsible for putting them to work.

"What we have now is a form of feudalism without its benefits to the workers. The many toil so the few can live in luxury. Men are conscripted and dragged off to war; hysteria and propaganda are more effective than the feudal lord's pikemen. Ask the farmer what portion of his crop goes for taxes and debt! And when we have times like these, and somebody has to provide for the starving, watch the millionaires duck and dodge."

The student of government will tell us that the form of government drawn up by our revolutionary forebears was not entirely democratic in intention; the men who framed it were wealthy landowners, slave owners; the working class of that day was not represented in their councils. Even Thomas Jefferson, whose views were considered dangerously proletarian by the Whigs, was a landed proprietor. It took the greatest crisis in the history of this country, and a man with the courage of Lincoln, to outlaw slavery.

Influence of Wealth

The power of wealth has left a firm imprint on our governmental system. A small group of old men, appointed for life, has the final authority to pass on our laws. An imperfect and patched-together instrument, the Constitution, is regarded as a sacred, God-given document. No legislation, no matter how just or necessary it may be, can be kept on our statute books if this small group of old men find it is not in accordance with the sacred patches.

Our legislators, with a few exceptions, have only one thought, and that is to continue in office. This accounts for their peculiar behavior. They want to please the people who contribute to campaign funds, and the groups who

they believe can deliver the vote. They listen to lobbyists, kow-tow to sacred cows, and grovel to those who have patronage to distribute. To the poor and generally inarticulate masses of their constituents they are deaf except just before election day.

It is true that the people of America, workers and workless, want someone to be **RESPONSIBLE** for their plight. We have had a President who sent out armed soldiers and police to prevent ragged citizens from delivering a petition to him. In the last election we turned him and his party out of power. But if we want the group we elected to fulfil the duties we have vested in them we'll have to speak up loud and often.

Privilege Should Carry Responsibility

I think the financial reporter's idea of responsibility is a good one. But who is responsible? America is a land of vast opportunities; and some have reaped vast profits from those opportunities. They say, "You must not tax wealth too heavily or it will destroy initiative; we will have no incentive to do business if you take too many of our profits; we will not put people to work unless the opportunity for profit is present."

On the other hand, we have these same people assuming the right to make policies for business and government, policies that destroy the opportunities of millions of lesser folk, that have wrecked banks, curtailed industry and brought us to our present dreadful situation. Corporations have ruined small independent businesses. The mechanic cannot work unless he can find a boss, and the boss cannot do business unless he listens to what the banker tells him. We say that those who are responsible for destitution should pay the cost of it.

Under the name of Technocracy a group of technicians have made surveys of the industrial possibilities of the United States and they tell us that if these industries were run in a scientific manner, with production for use as the object, that the average standard of living could be raised to 10 times what it is now and the hours of work could be cut to four a day for only four days a week and everyone could enjoy all material comforts and the greatest luxury of all, security.

In order to put through their program it is assumed that the country could be put under a dictatorship of technical

men, a leadership of brains rather than wealth. Their ideas are similar to those of the Russian five-year plan, but with a much greater chance for success as the United States would not have the heart-breaking struggle for machinery, money, and skilled workers that the Russians are experiencing. We have the means for production of enormous quantities of goods.

If All Went to Work

Let's just suppose that all of America went to work tomorrow. What a blowing of factory whistles there would be! Everybody would immediately go back to their jobs, all over the country there would be such a bustle of activity, such a clatter and whirl of machinery, such singing and shouting as never was heard before. The earth would shake with the trample of hurrying feet. And in a short time a stream of commodities would flow out to those who need them—shoes, clothing, food, tables, chairs and dishes; mattresses, blankets and beds. The builders would be putting up nice houses and apartments for everyone to live in and tearing down foul shacks and tenements. Every modern comfort and convenience from electric lighting to automobiles, would soon be available for everyone's use. And just think of us housewives, of all the dishwashing machines, washing, ironing, cooking, refrigerating, and cleaning machines we would have!

We must not be afraid of new ideas. We have a dictatorship of wealth and it is not assuming any responsibility toward its victims. A dictatorship of brains ought to be better.

In the meantime, there is organized labor's progressive policy for a shorter work week, to absorb unemployed, and a higher wage, to augment purchasing power. And if you look at it objectively, is not the result to be achieved the same as the Technocrats'? Labor's program is practical and far-reaching. To achieve it we must have a strong and enlightened union membership. This is no time for anybody to be quitting the union, instead he and his family should be boosting the union at every opportunity and trying to make it stronger, for it is the only agency that is directly interested in promoting his welfare.

This has been proved so many times that it ought not to be necessary to repeat, but in the stress of hunger and hard times sometimes we lose sight of the real values.

THE VERSATILE ONION

By SALLY LUNN

ONIONS, next to potatoes, are probably the most frequently used vegetable in our larders. But where the potato is a stolid staple in the diet, the onion is versatile, appearing now as a vegetable and at other times as a delightful flavoring element—delightful, that is, if you like onions.

Onions as Flavoring

Personally, when I use onions as flavoring, I like them fried. In dressing for chicken, turkey, lamb, pork, beef, the onion is a very necessary part; chopped and fried a golden brown, its flavor is richer, more suave; also it is sure to be thoroughly cooked if given a preliminary browning, and thorough cooking is necessary with onions. In meat loaf, particularly if it is a small meat loaf (taking less time to bake) frying the onion is a wise precaution so that all the ingredients will be "well done" at the same time.

Hash a la Sally

Hash can be made a food for epicures if you will first chop and fry the onions (plenty of them!) and when well browned, add the chopped, cooked meat; let cook slowly a few minutes while the flavors blend; then mash in with a fork several hot boiled potatoes just lifted from the boiling water. This hash may be served at once, or may be placed in the oven to brown.

Onion Soup

Then there is onion soup, where the onions are sliced and browned, to be combined with soup stock, and served with rounds of toast sprinkled with grated cheese.

A Dish for Hungry Men

Did you ever make "Scoutin' long the Shore," a fragrant product of the fisherman's galley? Put a good half-cupful of bacon grease into a hot skillet, and slice into it raw potatoes and raw onions—proportioned as you wish. Turn down the heat; salt and pepper; turn it a few times, but let it fry undisturbed for the last 15 minutes so you will have a nice brown crust on the bottom. It is a grand hit with hungry men.

Onions with the Roast

Every time I cook a pot roast of beef I put in one onion for each person and let these stew with the roast for the length of its cooking. Very soft and tender and brown, flavored with the meat juices, the onions are served around the meat platter.

Or steak with fried onions—hamburger with fried onions—mmmmm!

Served as Vegetables

When served as a vegetable, rather than a flavoring, onions are apt to be boiled, for when prepared thus the flavor is mild, and the succulence and juiciness more in evidence.

Creamed onions and buttered onions are familiar to all of us, but when you want to make an inexpensive dish that is decorative to the table as well as being healthful and hearty, try the stuffed onions as illustrated on this page.

A little raw onion, or fresh green onion tops, finely chopped or minced, adds piquancy to potato salad, vegetable salad, etc., and many sandwich mixtures, chopped meat, in particular, are "pepped up" by the addition of minced onion. If you like green onion tops for flavoring, try planting an onion in a glass or cup of water so that the root end just touches the water. You can keep cutting the sprouts for some time.

Onions are particularly grand in economy times because they are cheap, and they keep well in winter. If you have a cool, dry, place to store them, and if you intend to use them often, it is practical to buy a 100-pound sack at the wholesale grocer's; you can get them for a fraction of what they would cost you by the pound.

MRS. ROOSEVELT CHAMPIONS LABOR

The address of Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt on December 13 before the National Consumer's League in New York City is probably unprecedented as an utterance of a woman about to become mistress of the White House. As reported in the New York Herald-Tribune, Mrs. Roosevelt said in part:

"We are facing today industrially in this country a crisis such as we have never faced before. The manufacturer who has every desire to be fair to his workmen, who has an enlightened point of view on social conditions, must compete in the open market, and the depression has brought about such unemployment that the unscrupulous man who in former years would have found it impossible to find people to accede to his conditions of work, is now finding it easy because men and women must keep body and soul together.

"Conditions are coming before us every day which seem unbelievable, but day after day they are proved to be true. I wish I could bring the friends who say these things cannot be true into my office to see the letters I receive. A great many people still believe that conditions on the whole are good for the American working man, so much better here than anywhere else, and that hard times are largely in the imagination.

"There is something fundamentally wrong with a civilization which tolerates conditions such as many of our people are facing today. This organization is suggesting two things to remedy conditions, a minimum wage and compulsory limit on the hours of work a week. These are very excellent, but they are just steps along the way. They will stop a gap. We talk of a new deal, and we believe in it, but we will have no new deal unless some of us are willing to sit down and think this situation out. It may require some drastic changes in our rather settled ideas, and we must not be afraid of them."

—From Information Service, Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

Mrs. Roosevelt is in many ways unique as a prospective first lady of the land. While her predecessors have played what part they were called upon to do, in the social life of the Capital, Mrs. Roosevelt is frankly more interested in social service.

She is a woman who admittedly would rather hold a job than a tea cup; she has been holding a job very successfully. At the same time she gives much of her attention to the problems of other working women; she is actively interested in the Woman's Trade Union League, a union organization. Recently she sold some of her time and the advertising value of her name to a radio advertiser and gave the money she earned thereby to unemployment relief.

It is going to be a source of great satisfaction to working women and wives of workers to have a person like Mrs. Roosevelt as such a strong influence in the affairs of the nation.



Courtesy Home Economics Bureau, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

STUFFED ONIONS

Peel, and parboil five large onions in salted water. When tender, remove from water, cut in halves and remove the inner rings, leaving a shell or cup form. Chop the inner layers, combine with buttered bread crumbs or toast crumbs, and chopped parsley; return mixture to onion cups and brown slightly in a moderate oven.

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

UTILITARIAN STREET LIGHTING SYSTEMS

The term "utilitarian" has been applied to those types of street lighting systems, in which the current is carried to the lighting units by overhead wiring, to distinguish installations of this character from "ornamental" street lighting systems, in which the energy is conveyed to the lighting units through underground cable construction.

Utilitarian, or overhead street lighting systems, are generally installed in outlying districts of the larger cities, on interurban highways and in small towns and villages.

From an operating standpoint, utilitarian street lighting systems may be divided into two classes: Series and multiple.

The series system is generally used for utilitarian street lighting, owing to the ease with which it may be controlled from a central point, and the fact that one conductor only is required to traverse the lighted area, as compared with the two conductors which are necessary with the

multiple system. Series incandescent lamps also are more efficient and generally have a longer useful life than multiple lamps.

There are three classes of series systems in general use for utilitarian street lighting, each of which has its appropriate application, viz.:

1. Straight series, operating generally on 6.6-, 7.5- or 20-ampere constant-current series circuits through a film socket.

2. Low voltage series, in which series lamps operate on the secondary coil of a series transformer, connected to a constant current series circuit.

3. Adjuster socket, or constant-potential series system, in which series lamps operate in multiple sockets with a reactance coil shunted across the socket terminals connected in series on a constant potential circuit.

Series Equipment. For series systems the standard, universal, inverted cone and multilux streethoods may be used. Luxolite pendants, equipped with series film sockets may also be used to advantage.

Multiple systems are generally operated from the regular house lighting distributing network, and small groups may be controlled by either time switches, or a pilot control wire operating a relay switch at each transformer.

Multiple Equipment. For multiple system the universal or multilux streethoods with multiple sockets should be used.

TRANSFORMER THERMAL INDICATOR

Application

Thermal indicators are designed for outdoor or indoor application on distribution and small power transformers where an instrument of higher grade than the plain thermometer is preferred.

Operation

These thermal indicators are dial-type instruments calibrated for temperature. Each consists of a Bourdon gauge, connected to an alcohol thermometer, whose

(Continued on page 46)

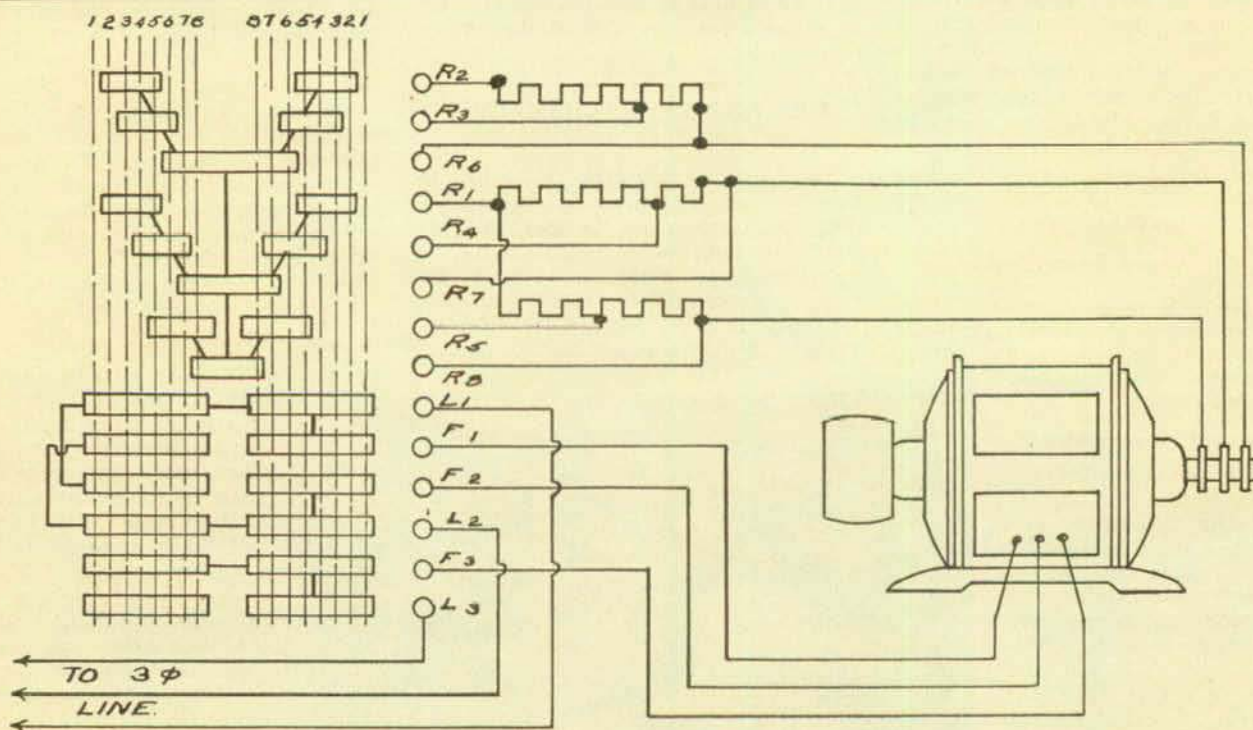


FIG. 9

DRUM-CONTROLLER CONNECTED TO A 3φ SLIP-RING MOTOR

Figure nine shows a three-phase slip ring motor, using a drum-controller for starting. As the controller is moved the resistance in series with the armature is short-circuited in steps, as the motor speeds up, until all the resistance is out of the circuit.

This method may also be used for speed control provided the resistance grids are constructed for this purpose. Grids made for starting purposes only are not of sufficient capacity to be used for speed control.

In this diagram the direction of rotation can be changed by moving the controller arm in the opposite direction. By tracing out the line circuit it is noticed that L_1 and L_2 are reversed when the controller arm is moved in the opposite direction, thus changing the rotation of the motor.

A magnetic switch and relay may also be connected in the

motor circuit to protect the motor from overloads, a no-voltage release may also be inserted in the circuit if desired.

The following formula may be of value when determining the full load current of a three phase motor.

$$I = \frac{H. P. \times 746}{E \times \sqrt{3} \times \cos \phi \times \text{eff.}}$$

Where —

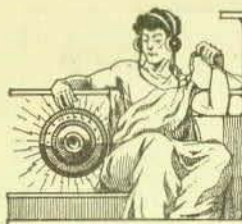
I = Amperes.

H. P. = Horsepower.

E = Line Voltage.

$\cos \phi$ = Power-factor.

eff. = Efficiency.



RADIO



SMOTHERING MAN-MADE STATIC

Various Devices in Combination With Shielded Downlead Now Reduce Usual Noisy Background to Negligible Proportions

By AUSTIN C. LESCARBOURA, Member A. I. E. E., Member I. R. E.

TIME was when static could be considered an unavoidable something due to atmospheric conditions beyond our control. And while we still have no solution to the problem of genuine static, we do know today that much of the so-called "static" is in reality inductive interference from electrical equipment in and out of the usual home. During cool and cold weather, particularly the bulk of the so-called static interference, may be traced directly to man-made causes and is therefore within our power to rectify.

Heretofore, inductive interference has been cleared up mainly at the source itself, by various forms of by-pass condenser installations, although this method has been costly, difficult and quite uncertain. In the past month or two, however, ingenious means have been introduced for eliminating most of the inductive interference at the receiving end, and thus we have the outstanding feature for this month's radio dissertation.

By inductive interference is meant the setting up of electro-magnetic waves by the making and breaking of any electric circuit, especially when accompanied by a noticeable spark. Such electromagnetic waves are capable of interfering with nearby radio receivers, and while they do not travel far, the fact that present-day radio sets are so sensitive makes them especially susceptible to inductive interference. This is especially true when a long lead-in is employed from lofty antenna to a radio set several floors below. The modern household is replete with sparking switches, motors, electric heating appliances, violet ray machines, oil burners, electric refrigerators and other devices propagating electro-magnetic waves, while outside we find electric power lines, trolley and electric railways, dial telephones, electric elevators and other devices also contributing to the high noise level or background noise experienced in average broadcast reception.

Two Channels of Static

Now the electromagnetic waves of inductive interference are propagated along one or both of two broad mediums: First, the waves may travel along conductors or wires, reaching the sensitive radio receiving circuits through the power transformer of the A. C. or the resistance network of the D. C. receiver; second, the waves may be thrown out into space, either directly at the source of interference or at some point along the power line. In the properly designed socket-power radio set, ample means are provided to prevent inductive interference from gaining access to the radio circuits through the power circuit. The power transformers in A. C. sets, for example, are generally electrostatically shielded between primary and secondary windings.

However, the long lead-in, being unshielded, is a fruitful source of inductive interference pick-up, and most of the background noise—aside from natural static, of course—can be traced to that source.

The idea of a shielded lead-in or downlead suggests itself immediately. But unfortunately, a shielded downlead directly connected to antenna and receiver will not work. For technically-minded readers, it may be explained that since the normal impedance of the antenna is so great with relation to the reactance between downlead wire and shielding, it is at once apparent that, unless considerable spacing is allowed between the two, the signals will be shorted to ground via the shielding.

Engineers Succeed

In the past few months three radio engineers of New York City—Ernest Amy, Julius Aceves and Frank King—have developed a scheme whereby a shielded downlead can be employed without the shorting effect already referred to. They have developed suitable auto-transformers for coupling the shielded downlead to the antenna and the receiver, so that the antenna now presents an impedance to the downlead below the reactance between wire and shielding, thereby reducing the transmission loss in the shielded downlead to negligible proportions. The loss of signal pick-up by the shielded downlead is also negligible, since studies indicate that nine-tenths of the signal pickup is by means of the antenna proper, the downlead contributing most of the remainder. Furthermore, because of the better matching of antenna system and broadcast receiver brought about by the auto-transformers or Akaformers, as they are named, a greater transfer of energy from antenna to receiver takes place.

The elements of the Akaformer system or the several variations made under license granted by Amy, Aceves and King, consist of the antenna coupling unit, the shielded downlead and the set coupling unit. The antenna unit is in the form of a dome-shaped casing with a screw terminal lug at top, fastened to any convenient point along the antenna wire, together with several screw terminals on the under or flat side for making connections with the inner conductor and the woven braid shielding of the shielded downlead. The shielded downlead is a No. 20 B. & S. gauge stranded copper wire with cotton wrapping and 1/32-inch low-loss rubber insulation, together with an outer covering of tinned copper tightly woven flexible braid. The approved cable is supplied in 50-foot lengths.

The receiver coupling unit is a flat metal casing with fibre top carrying screw terminals and two wire leads. It is mounted with a single screw on the rear or inside

the radio cabinet, within short reach of the antenna and ground binding posts of the set. The inner conductor of the shielded downlead connects with one terminal, the shielding with another, one of the wire leads with the antenna binding post, a connection is run to the antenna binding post and another to the nearest ground.

Easy to Install

Installation is simple. It requires less than an hour to install the Akaformer system for the usual antenna and receiver. Care should be taken not to have the downlead rub against coping or walls, so as to avoid any danger of shorting the braid shielding and inner conductor.

While only a single coupling unit may be employed at the antenna end, experience has shown that a second coupling unit at the set end is essential for all broadcast receivers of high impedance input. The majority of present sets are in the high impedance input class. Also, it has been found that even with low impedance input sets, when the volume control is at maximum setting the impedance becomes sufficiently high to require a transformer or coupling device between downlead and set. In order to meet the impedance requirements of any receiver, the set coupling device is designed with two wire leads for high and low impedance requirements. The proper lead can be ascertained by actual test.

Another feature of the perfected system is the incorporation of the short-wave optional feature. In other words, without any changes or additions whatsoever in the system itself, short-wave reception down to 15 meters may be enjoyed by means of a suitable receiver.

The striking reduction of background noise, permitting of the greater enjoyment of any broadcast program, is at once apparent when working with the Akaformer system. The reduction of the noise level also facilitates long-distance or weak signal reception. The building up of the available signal strength by a more efficient transfer of energy between antenna and receiver is also desirable, especially for installations where a considerable distance separates antenna and receiver. All in all, this system represents a marked contribution to the present broadcast art.

He's truly valiant that can wisely suffer
The worst that man can breathe, and make
his wrongs
His outside, to wear them like his raiment,
carelessly,
And ne'er prefer his injuries to his heart,
To bring it into danger.—Shakespeare.

ON EVERY JOB

There's a Laugh
& Two

Apparently true is the statement, by Irvine, that an "ohm" is an Englishman's ouse. We see by the Electrical Trades Journal of London, "She was only an electrician's daughter, but she wanted an 'ohm' of her own."

* * *

Masterson remarks:
"The man without a country was a sorry gent,
But a man worse off is a man without a cent."

* * *

With the great campaign against the banking fraternity being led by this JOURNAL, we can't help appreciating the humor of this joke:

Suspended

The story is told that in Texas, years ago, a bank president swindled his depositors, causing the sign to be displayed on the institution, "Bank Suspended." The embezzler was caught and promptly strung up, and under the tree the lynchers, with grim humor, placed the notice, "Bank President Suspended."

* * *

Some of the boys haven't very good manners, according to G. L. Monsive.

"Daddy, do you always use a glass to drink your wine?" asked little Freddie.

"Why, of course, son, why do you ask?"
"Well, the man who fixed the lights didn't."

* * *

The very particular housekeeper was having her bedroom redecorated. Wishing to learn what progress the painter was making in his work, she crept to the bottom of the stairs and listened. Not a sound reached her ears from inside the room.

"Painter," she called out, becoming suspicious, "are you working?"

"Yes, ma'am," came the reply.

"I can't hear you making a sound," she returned bitingly.

"Perhaps not, ma'am," he shouted back. "I ain't puttin' the paint on with no hammer."

* * *

Wild Birds

"Lawdy, Missy, you ain't gwine to like the work that electrician man am doing. He done said he's gwine to put a buzzard in the kitchen."

* * *

Famous last words: "And, Nora, put the silverware away, the electrician is here to fix the range."

G. L. MONSIVE,
International Office.

* * *

We feel pretty bad about a joke sent in by C. S. Meacham, of Local No. 17, which he says none of the boys in town had heard before. Can it be that none of these boys read our scintillating column?

* * *

Ushering in the New Year

"This is real pre-war stuff."
"You don't mean to say there is going to be another war!"

No Real Damage

"Sorry to interrupt you, pal, but I just got word that your house has burned to the ground."

"Only to the ground! Thank goodness, my home brew's safe!"

* * *

Local Misprints

Evening Appeal: If it rains this evening the social will be hell tomorrow evening.

Memphis Press: One of Jack Barker's horses died last night from a strange melody.

Labor Review: She was married in Nashville, Tenn., to Walter John Jarrett, and to this onion was born three children.

R. B. BAKER,
L. U. No. 474.

* * *

Our Journal

I peruse our publication
Every month throughout the year,
Not only when on a vacation,
But home boys, right here.

Of course we have plenty of spare time,
Now the depression is on,
No money to go to other climes
As we had in the days that are gone.

So I pen these lines for you to read,
To pass the time away,
Of the helpful knowledge we must heed
That this JOURNAL brings our way.

JOE YARVICE,
L. U. No. 9.

* * *

For 1933

I hope that this New Year will do
Something for the boys so blue,
Who buck the current now and then;
The JUICE, the credo of our men.

JOHN F. MASTERSON,
International Office.

* * *

Endurance

Centuries' pressure of a mighty sea
Fails to shake the gigantic rock and cliff;
Tides of ages and furious gales that be
Cannot break nor reduce it to a reef.
They may cut and carve great grooves and curves,

They may engrave rare forms and fine designs
In the outer walls; the interior nerves
Shall stay intact, being built on solid lines.

Humans may be hardened to withstand
Many hardships, misery and distress;
They may endure the pain of a pressin' hand

And accept it as if it be a caress.
Should the pressure be applied in excess
The folks will awaken by evils 'n' ills;
For unlike the cold rock they do possess
A mind that thinks and a heart that feels!

ABE GLICK,
L. U. No. 3, New York City.

When It's Apple Picking Time In Washington

Listen, folks, to my confession—
This is how I beat depression:
Picking apples in a tree,
On a ranch near Wenatchee,
Where snowy mountains rising high
Meet fleecy clouds up in the sky;
Where nights are cold and days are grand.
Out here in the Charmed Land.
One hundred boxes every day,
Or else, my friend, you do not stay.
If no stem pull and no bruise,
I can earn our eats and dues.

W. H. HENDRICK,
at Peshastine, Wash.

* * *

Close Shave

A medical man ordered his patient whisky and impressed upon him that he must take it with hot water, otherwise it would do him more harm than good.

"How am I going to get the hot water?" asked the patient. "My wife is a teetotaler and if she knows it's for whisky she won't let me have it."

"Oh, tell her you want it for shaving," said the doctor.

The next day the doctor called and when the wife opened the door he inquired how the patient was.

"I'm worried, doctor," she said. "I'm afraid he's gone mad. He wants to shave every 10 minutes."

O. E. LENT,
L. U. No. 770.

* * *

Justified Assault

Lineman Danny O'Brien was hailed into Judge Murphy's court, charged with striking a nigger pole hole digger on a construction gang over the head with his safety strap.

Judge Murphy, upon examining the charge, asked the victim, "Why should he strike you? I am sure he had a reason. No man wilfully strikes another unless there is a reason."

"No sah, jedge! I done nuffing to him. I were minding my own business; he runs up to me and hits me several times."

"Wait a minute," interrupted the Judge. "Tell me what were you doing or saying?"

"No sah, boss. I wuz singing dat's all I wuz doing."

"And what were you singing?"
"Oh, I was singing dat little song called 'Ireland must be heaven, cause my mammy comes from there.'"

G. L. MONSIVE,
I. O.

* * *

No Lack of Merit Implied

The editor of this column was dining out. "Would you like some more pudding?" the hostess asked.

"No, thank you," replied the editor, absently. "Owing to tremendous pressure on space I am reluctantly compelled to decline."

UNANIMOUS

Drawn especially for Electrical Workers Journal by Harris S. Goodwin





CORRESPONDENCE



L. U. NO. 7, SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

Editor:

By the time this goes to print the holidays will be over and the mad rush of bargain hunters will be at an end for a while.

The mania for bargains, which impels many people to buy what they do not need and to insist upon reductions in prices to a point way below the limits of reason is an outstanding feature of the present economic situation. Depression never will end so long as the demand for bargains prevails.

What is the real cost of the bargains in which so many thrifty people take delight? What comes in the train of the daily raid of eager purchasers upon the counters where goods are sold at a price intended to meet the demand? There seems no end to the process by which business, built up by years of struggle is hauled down. Rising values will restore but falling prices can lead only to ruin.

Apart from the havoc that comes to trade, industry and agriculture from the craze for bargains comes the penalizing of the working people. The woman who habitually follows the bargain impulse will be assured that her purchase was made possible only with the life blood of the unfortunate poor who are driven by her greediness to take employment for less than the cost of even a humble living.

Indications are appearing that bottom has been reached in the prices of many lines of merchandise. When the upswing really comes there will be cause for real rejoicing all along the line. The bargain-hunting group may then fittingly relax and enter into the new spirit of things which will restore what has been torn down. The hope may properly be entertained that improvement will come before further disaster follows the prevailing tendency. Evidently someone, somewhere will have to do business or work at a profit to make possible the return of more prosperous times.

So let us all make some good old resolutions in regard to the coming year to cut out bargain hunting and worry about the other people's business as well as our own.

In conclusion, and in the advent of the New Year it is my personal wish, as well as my local's that all the Brotherhood members enjoy a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

E. MULLARKEY.

L. U. NO. 26, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Editor:

Brickbats and bouquets! Show me a home, and I'll show you a nation—and also its workers.

Who's to blame for the present mess this country is in now?

Easy question to answer—the ex-soldiers and the government workers!

The Treasury Department is still trying to balance the budget at the expense of the above mentioned.

A few years back these same people who complain about either of these classes had the same opportunity to become one or the other. The unwarranted attack on government employees is based only on jealousy

and ignorance. When the government cut its employees' wages every outside corporation and industry followed suit. One local example here in Washington, one of the largest chain stores has notified all its managers that a 10 per cent cut will be effective January 1, 1933.

The money Uncle Sam saved from his employees, \$300,000,000, that money goes into the treasury and not into circulation. Have the taxpayers been relieved? Lot of hokey! Only 4 per cent of all Government workers receive more than \$2,000 a year.

During the "lame duck" session in Congress, from December, 1932, until March, 1933, Uncle Sam spends over \$2,500,000 for their service, including printing of their speeches, clerical hire, and other items that are supposed to be necessary. American standard of living for the lame ducks and servitude for the honest workers in the government service!

Due to the economic conditions throughout the country, there have been over 80,000 persons filed applications for government jobs from February to September, 1932. "Any port in a storm!"

People throughout the States who "have it in" for Uncle Sam's workers, should write to the postmaster here in Washington for information, regarding how much money is sent out the first and fifteenth of each month to all parts of this country to support their people back home. It would soon change their opinions. There'd be a whole lot more people in hunger lines if it were not for government employees.

Organized labor in the government needs a Landis or a Will Hayes. Our recent battles with Congress showed an appalling lack of harmony and uniformity among the various organizations that presented their claims to Congress. The numerous committees that are sent out by the labor groups in the government service are only wasting their own time, the Congressmen's time and their own money in trying to get something across. One Congressman told this writer that he would have to be a "crystal gazer" to understand what all these groups wanted.

Leaders of the A. F. of L. who are always on the job for the government worker are often "put on the spot" by the confusing demands of some of the groups that run wild through the corridors of Congress.

The crying need of the hour for all organized government employees is to get together and select some one man who will familiarize himself with our needs and will be able to speak with authority on what organized labor wants in the government. There are some good men in the A. F. of L. who could handle such a task. Establish a Bureau of Propaganda and Publicity for government employees. Political parties have it, why shouldn't we?

The trouble with government employees is that every one wants something different, and in most cases they get it—in the neck!

Electrical workers here at the yard are paid less than those at the Government Printing Office and Bureau of Engraving—An example of one of the queer operations of the government.

Let's go back to our union meetings! Our hall is no different from any other hall

where union men assemble. We have our "chatter boxes," also, good union men who never "come up." Men who do more talking in a cellar than they do on a floor—wonder why? Men who are always digging out their hooks, to win a point or two. Men who haven't the courage to say what they think—but who will squawk when the meeting is over. Men who aspire to office to satisfy their own personal ambitions. Men who profess to be labor leaders, but "scram" when it demands plain, ordinary "guts."

Men in this local who are luke-warm to it, either get out or stay in. Don't think another wage cut will give you your "perfect alibi." Remember, you lose by quitting. Suppose the Machinist organization here at the yard disbanded? Electricians would be getting about \$3 per day.

That cartoon "Open Season for Snakes," is a very good and appropriate one.

Every day and in every way, men are becoming more effeminate—result, a poor nation.

TOM CRANN

L. U. NO. 28, BALTIMORE, MD.

Editor:

The Christmas holidays are here and the spirit generally associated with this season is very noticeably manifested everywhere. Soon the holidays will be history and the desirable features will leave with them. How wonderful it would be if this spirit of good fellowship and good will would remain with us throughout the entire year instead of appearing only once each year. When this season rolls by everyone just seems to drift back into the old rut and once more we resort to that old "dog eat dog" mode of existence. A sort of truce seems to be declared for a short period, and after that back to the battle for everyday life, in which our fellow man is shown very little if any consideration. We surmise our comment is not very original, and that human nature, being what it is, will continue to practice this form of existence.

Local Union No. 28, through its wonderful relief committee, has performed a great work in taking care of the unemployed, and furnishing relief when and where needed. For the holidays the unemployed were each given an immense package or two of various edibles, including meats, vegetables, fruits, canned goods and other items. In other words, no one went hungry and each had a plentiful supply of food for self and family—a real Merry Christmas in concrete form. Here was an example of what a real honest to goodness organization can and will do for its membership when the need is present. Action and not mere hollow words. This method of aiding the membership goes a long way to proving the need for retaining the affiliation and loyalty to the organization.

We were very much interested in the letter from Local No. 349 by Clarence Grimm. A letter or word from Miami always hits the right spot. Our Brother, Vice President Ed Garmatz, always agrees with us on this one subject if no other.

We see where Bachie, of Local No. 211, mentions someone by the name of "Howdy"

Tarbert, who is hibernating in our midst. We don't seem to be able to place the Brother at present. At any rate we'll take Bachie's word for it.

To see the large number of interesting letters in this JOURNAL one would never imagine that such a thing as a depression is on. The writers not only dwell on local subjects but a large variety of topics, including that of national affairs. This is, indeed, very commendable.

We will now take this as an occasion for wishing the entire Brotherhood, including all the officers of the International Office, a very Happy and Prosperous New Year. Special regards to Brother Bill Farber, of Local No. 3.

R. S. ROSEMAN.

L. U. NO. 43, SYRACUSE, N. Y.

Editor:

Local No. 43, of Syracuse, is putting on an electrical party to stimulate interest in the electrical industry, on January 18, consisting of dancing, card playing, and an exhibition of the latest electrical developments, at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

The co-operation we are receiving from the Syracuse Lighting Company, jobbers, and contractors, is most gratifying.

I wish to call the attention of our neighboring locals that it will be to their interest to attend this party, as the new lines to be shown are a fertile field for new business in the electrical field along the lines of modernized wiring.

Syracuse electrical wholesalers have contributed the following door prizes:

Armstrong table stove, Sessions electric clock, Waage flatiron, Hot Point radio dial toaster, Polar Cub cake mixer, Starrite percolator, Universal waffle iron, Firefleck lamp, Buss lamp.

Hoping to see a large attendance of I. B. E. W. members at our party, we extend the season's greetings.

R. KAVANAGH.

L. U. NO. 58, DETROIT, MICH.

Editor:

It is customary at this time of the year to look back and summarize our losses and gains, both individually and collectively, and to try to arrive at a conclusion as to how we have progressed, and how much we each have contrived to help and strengthen the organization from which we expect so much, and to which we give so little.

The first impulse is to take stock in terms of dollars and cents. One of the hardest things we ordinary humans find to do is to get our eyes and minds past that very necessary money sign and visualize the rewards and gains made in experience, education, research, and sociology. In this regard, the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred and thirty-two may prove to have been the most bountiful year in the Brotherhood's history. Local No. 58 can by no means call it a complete flop.

There are two outstanding achievements to be written into the record, neither of which has any instantaneous monetary value. One has to do with the most salutary attempt in our history to broaden the electrical knowledge of our journeymen; and about which we hope to discourse more fully in some future letter; the other has reference to the splendid performance that was written up last summer in the realm of baseball. There is not the least doubt that Captain Art Capelle's boys have carried the proud name of Local No. 58 into thousands of homes where it was never heard before.

In an interview with one of our up-and-coming young apprentices, Russell Engel, who so far as we could notice, never missed score-keeping a game, we learn that Local No. 58 came from behind to win their third straight championship of the Detroit Labor League. Let Russell tell it:

"After winning the championship of the Labor League in the last two years, the baseball team of Local No. 58 didn't start the present season so well, losing the first two games of the season—the first to the printers, 8 to 7, and the second to the bricklayers, 8 to 4. From then on, through, they played heads-up ball, winning all the rest of their games for the regular season.

"The linemen, Local No. 17, were handicapped this year by the absence of McCleary, their star hurler, who pitched for Ann Arbor of the Michigan-Ontario League.

"The first game played between Local No. 58 and Local No. 17 sure was a battle for six innings. The score was tied at two runs when, in the last of the sixth, Local No. 58 pulled off a triple play on the linemen. "Cec" Martin was on second, George Tripp on first, and Remmert at bat. The ball was hit to Pat Zimmerman on first, who whipped it over to Art Capelle at third, forcing Martin. Art pegged it to Ted Buckheim, getting Tripp at second, and then Ted threw to Pat, getting Remmert. This seemed to take the pepper out of Local No. 17, the game ending, 14 to 2. In the other game Local No. 58 easily beat Local No. 17, 19 to 4.

"The playoffs started with three teams—bricklayers, printers and electricians. In the first game, the bricklayers beat Local No. 58, 2 to 1. That sure was a game. The electricians only got five hits and wouldn't have scored but for an error by the leftfielder. Bartha got a triple to left and scored when the fielder threw the ball in the stands trying to get him at third.

"The bricklayers then defeated the printers, 9 to 7, and the following week the electricians eliminated the printers, 15 to 12. This left the electricians and the bricklayers to play a three-game series.

"In the first game, Jansen came out of his retirement and only allowed two hits, shutting out the brickies, 10 to 0. Then the electricians ended the season in the Labor League by beating them again, 14 to 9. This put them in the class with the Athletics and the Yanks, by winning three straight championships.

"Not being satisfied with this the electricians then went out and won the Class AA Championship of the city, by beating the champions of the fraternal, Edison and Police Leagues.

"The team was made up this year of a mixture of journeymen and helpers. Ed Ehrler was athletic director; Art Capelle, manager and third baseman; Pat Zimmerman played first; Charley Basso, second; Jimmy Bartha, short; Bud Campbell, right; and also led the team in hitting with .421; Jud Carter played center; Al Grigsburg, left; Suhd was the catcher; and Jansen and Buckheim pitching. The utility men were Bill Walker, Wilson, and Milligan. Art Capelle batted .411 and led the team with 28 runs batted in. Charley Basso hit .373, and led the team in stolen bases. Buckheim and Jansen both pitched wonderful ball, having earned run averaged of 2.6 and 2. Suhd held up in grand style, and also hit .372.

"It is now up to the team to stick together and win the fourth straight championship next year. We hope they can do it."

Yes, indeed, Russell, we all hope they

can do it. Local Union No. 58 is right smart proud of its baseball team. We would like to draw to the attention of all locals within a 300-mile radius of Detroit that our athletic director, Brother Ed. Ehrler, will be pleased to have them communicate with him regarding the formation of a circuit for 1933. We would especially like to hear from Toledo, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago, Indianapolis, Toronto, as well as from our other Detroit Local Union No. 17. More leagues could be formed in the east, south and west; and we are sure the International Office would furnish some kind of inducement as a national prize for which to compete.

The potential value of a nation-wide baseball schedule would bring trade unionism before the public in a new and convincing way. Every lover of a game that is played for the game's sake, stripped of all the offensiveness of commercialism, would find in the union labor games an attraction and an outlet for his or her inherent interest in good, wholesome sport. Its mere existence would impress the industrialist that the organized workers are socially conscious—that they are determined to make themselves a compelling factor in the nation's processes. The mere public notice that anything of national dimensions usually receives should in itself warrant its immediate consideration.

LEONARD SMITH.

L. U. NO. 77, SEATTLE, WASH.

Editor:

Democracy is not simply politics, election by a majority, government by Congress. It is also the conviction that there are extraordinary possibilities in ordinary people.

We elected Marion Zioncheck, United States representative from Seattle at the last election. Mr. Zioncheck will be second to the youngest member of the next Congress, and we are looking to him for the fulfillment of our dreams of the successful boy. We know he will be a great leader.

Mr. Zioncheck was born in Kety, which is now a part of Poland, on December 5, 1900. He came to America with his parents when he was three years old.

Mr. Zioncheck's opponents say he is a radical. Perhaps he did feel a tinge of radicalism this fall when the employees of Frye's Packing House, where his father was once employed during Marion's early life, were being paid 12 cents an hour and were informed that their wages would be reduced to nine cents an hour. The bankers say Marion is a radical.

It seems that the working people are the only ones who are supposed to sacrifice their all for the common good.

Members of Local No. 77 petitioned the Department of Lighting, of Seattle, to wave the civil service ruling, giving senior employees full time employment, and laying off those not needed. In this way all employees have been kept on the payroll. The private power company, which is comparatively well organized, has also adopted this system of employment. "Mother Bell", with her company union, laid off a large per cent of her help 15 minutes after the panic started.

Why can't the money interests sacrifice a little? Did you ever hear of a banker reducing the rate of interest on a mortgage? One branch of our government won't help another department unless it is a money-making proposition and the shrewdest bargain they can drive. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation refused to buy Seattle and King County bonds for \$2,000,000, to feed the unemployed because it was a poor investment. Some of the city departments and several

private companies are delivering statements by messenger because it is cheaper than paying the postal department three cents a letter. There was a delegation from the letter carriers' union at our last meeting asking that we help them in correcting this practice.

Everyone but the worker is still worshipping at the "Shrine of the Golden Calf."

In 1896 we heard much of the "Cross of Gold". It was a great oration, but is seldom mentioned now. I once carried a few ounces of gold dust from the interior of Alaska to the coast. There is no load quite so hard to carry as gold. It has a way of grinding and blistering the flesh.

Thousands of stalwart men and virtuous women have given up under the present load of gold, and fallen into crime. Others have taken their own lives rather than carry on. Millions are facing starvation. The Czar never enacted a greater tribute from his subjects than is demanded by this monster.

Our great hope and perhaps the only hope is in the new government at Washington. Will they be able to control this demon, Gold? That question is burning in coals of living fire within the heart of every true American.

France, in refusing to pay her debts, may have beheaded another king—the gold standard; we hope so.

FRANK FARRAND.

L. U. NO. 83, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Editor:

That Local No. 83 is well organized politically was demonstrated to our satisfaction at the last election; the responsive action of our membership in pledging their support of the recommendations of our political committee is ample proof that the basic principle of our political policy supersedes party affiliations, and this is as it should be.

Years ago the voter was in a political dilemma during every campaign, trying to make an intelligent choice between two silver-tongued orators of opposing political parties; but today the voter knows that any high school boy can stand up before a microphone and deliver the most convincing campaign speech, and just about the time we reach the seventh heaven of concentration, listening to what we consider inspirational oratory, we are suddenly brought back to earth by the rustle of the leaves as he turns to the next page.

Organization has taught us that our economic interests are identical, and as we are striving to attain the consummation of political economy, we must of necessity unify our vote, and use our political strength to support the man instead of the party.

Two voters arguing politics are like two men in a rowboat pulling in opposite directions; they go around in circles, but get no nearer the political promised land.

If there was any guarantee that the rank and file of voters of either party would be assured of protection against economic distress while their party was in power, there would be some excuse for strong party affiliations, but such is not the case. Results have proven that after election the citizenship of the nation must share alike the golden eras of prosperity, or the darker days of depression, which the two old parties have been handing out to us for the past 50 years, and still there are some who are not yet convinced of the futility of political party arguments.

If circumstances were such that we could all become rich enough during an era of prosperity to keep us alive and out of debt through a period of depression it would make little difference to us which party was in power.

All candidates are elected to office on the assumption that they will utilize the power invested in them by the electorate, for the general welfare of all the people; as long as they use this power in the interest of all the people, Local No. 83 will support them; when they betray the trust of the people by using their power for special interest legislation, Local No. 83 will withdraw its support en masse, and we have a political committee whose duty it is to keep a record of all candidates we indorse.

We will not accept our present government as a criterion for the future; we believe there is still room for improvement.

This is a summary of our political policy, and we not only invite, but expect, the co-operation of all local unions, for only through a unified vote can we ever hope to rouse our dormant political power.

W. AUTHORSON.

L. U. NO. 103, BOSTON, MASS.

Editor:

The infamous year of 1932 has passed into oblivion, and it is my earnest hope that on this date, 12 months hence, we shall witness and experience a condition of affairs in the building industry decidedly the reverse of the one that has existed and still continues.

It is gratifying to note that in the midst of the hardships, privation and reverses endured by the members of Local No. 103, that they have stood the severe test placed upon their trade unionism, by displaying the highest type of loyalty to the cause of labor during this unprecedented period. It is also in keeping with this thought to make mention at this time of the co-operative spirit of our contractors, exhibited during the Christmas season.

At the suggestion of our thoughtful and energetic business manager, Joe Murphy, and assisted by President Charlie Buckley and Financial Secretary Jack Reagan, money was appropriated by our contractors in the form of a day or a half day's work, to be distributed among the unemployed members, and particular efforts were made by the above-mentioned committee to give the advantage to the most needy cases.

The duty delegated to the committee was

rather perplexing, particularly in view of the fact that there are so many idle, it was quite difficult for them to determine in the short space of time allotted the exact financial condition of every member. They, however were satisfied that the 130-odd recipients would put it to the use for which it was granted.

May I at this time express the deep appreciation of Local No. 103 for the kindly spirit demonstrated by the contractors on this occasion. If this same spirit could only be inculcated in the minds of some of our city and town officials and I regret to add, some men who have been and others who claim to be, members of our own Brotherhood, the path of a business manager and the circumstances of the average member, would no doubt be much brighter.

To clarify this, and to state more briefly what I have in mind, let me say that it is my hope that other locals throughout the country are not experiencing the ill effects resulting from the present mode of operation of municipal trade schools.

What I am about to say will no doubt be hard on the eyes and ears of some who will read this article. But the facts are before us, the industry is confronted with a very dangerous and prolific child labor problem, through the employment of the youngsters from the trade schools to do electrical work in public buildings of some of the cities and towns of this commonwealth. I am pleased to say, however, that the good mayor of Boston, the Hon. James M. Curley, has never resorted to such unfair tactics, but to the contrary has persistently given out not only construction work, but alteration and repair work to our fair contractors.

I know whereof I speak, as it was my privilege, early in December, to accompany Bill Horneman, one of our business agents, under instruction from our business manager, to investigate the rumor that two trade school boys under the supervision of Mr. Gunnerson, the instructor in electricity, were rewiring one of the large schools in Quincy, a city about eight miles from Boston but within our jurisdiction.

We located the boys on the work and led them to believe that we were deeply interested in what they were doing and after

The March of the Hungry Men

REGINALD WRIGHT KAUFMAN

In the dream of your downy couches, through the shades of your pampered sleep,
Give ear, you can hear it coming, the tide that is steady and deep,
From farm and sweatshop gathered, from the cab and the cobbler's bench,
They are armed with the pick and the jack-plane, the sledge and the ax and the wrench!

Give ear for the sound is growing from the desert and dungeon and den:
The tramp of the marching millions, the March of the Hungry Men!

And some come empty handed with fingers gnarled and strong,
And some come bent with sorrow and some sway drunk with song;
But all that you thought were buried are stirring and lithe and quick,
And they carry a brass-bound scepter, the brass composing stick.

Give ear for the sound is growing from the desert and dungeon and den:
The tramp of the marching millions, the March of the Hungry Men!

Thru the depths of the devil's darkness, with the distant stars for light,
They are coming the while you slumber, and they come with the might of right;
On a morrow—perhaps tomorrow, you will waken and see and then
You will hand the keys of the cities to the ranks of the Hungry Men.

Give ear for the sound is growing from the desert and dungeon and den:
The tramp of the marching millions, the March of the Hungry Men!

much questioning, discovered, to our amazement, that their operations extended to many public buildings and also occupied private dwellings.

It occurred to us that this was perhaps a fairly good form of cancellation of political indebtedness on the part of the mayor or the school committee, in so far as the private homes were concerned, but as to the saving resulting from the exploiting of the same child labor on public buildings, it would serve as great political thunder in the campaign prior to election time, but the house of cards must fall.

We proceeded from the school house to the mayor's office at city hall to enter a protest. An effort was made to keep us out of the mayor's office but, however, we forced our way in and Horneman laid the case squarely before the mayor, who pleaded ignorance and set up the defence that he did not favor such a policy, but stood nevertheless idly by and permitted it to continue. In his effort to avoid the responsibility for the employment of this child labor, the mayor requested Business Manager Murphy, in company with Brother Horneman and your humble servant, to appear before the school committee of the city of Quincy. This we did and Business Manager Murphy severely criticised the mayor and the city officials for the employment of child labor at the expense of the increase of human misery now endured. He further informed them that if they were not possessed of common decency and humane spirit, to the degree that would actuate them to employ men of mature years, who have spent their lives' endeavor in the electrical business, he would search through the laws of the commonwealth to find, if possible, ways and means to compel such action.

The press displayed considerable interest, having representatives of several newspapers present at the hearing. Front page writings resulted, and in the election which followed a short time later, the mayor and an unfriendly member of the school committee were defeated.

It is our hope that the new mayor will profit by the mistakes of his predecessor and permit labor to enjoy the fruits of its endeavors.

Our business manager, however, does not intend to confine his efforts strictly to his own jurisdiction, but will carry his fight to the state and if successful will bring about not only a benefit to Local No. 103 but to every local within the confines of this commonwealth.

If trade schools are going to develop into parasites on the building industry, then I can conceive but one remedy and that is their abolition. With the hue and cry of excessive expenditures in municipal operation, one medium of alleviation that might well be recommended is that we confine the matter of education of children to the original "three R's" and leave the question of mechanical training to the very efficient apprenticeship system now in vogue, in the various local unions.

After the World War, Local No. 103 presented to all members who were in the service a World War charm which was highly valued by all recipients. If the Brother who lost his charm will get in touch with Financial Secretary Jack Regan, he will be happy in that it will be returned to him, as one was found and Johnny is anxious to locate the owner.

As a concluding thought, may I add:

"Never the New Year morning,
Never the old year ends,
But somebody thinks of somebody,
Old days, old times, old friends!"

JOSEPH A. SLATTERY.

L. U. NO. 104, BOSTON, MASS.

Editor:

Just a line from Local No. 104, of "Beantown". I slipped up last month and was rather surprised to receive so much abuse, which I gladly took because I now realize some of our members, at least, read the WORKER, if they don't attend our meetings. Also happy to note that some of the Brothers like my humble efforts. I now apologize for my lapse of last month and will try not to let it happen again.

We have been successful in our negotiations with Boston Elevated Railway, and wish to say at this time that Local No. 104 certainly appreciates the able assistance which International Vice President Brother Keaveney gave us in this matter. Our local has called on International Vice President Brother Keaveney before and it is very gratifying to be able to call on one in whom you have confidence and who can so ably iron out our difficulties and I think we of the second district all feel this way.

I also at this time wish to say a word for the wonderful co-operation shown our committee by officials of the Boston Elevated Railway. If other companies were as willing to go to the limits as these officials are, this depression would not be nearly as bad as it is. By this co-operation of Local No. 104 and officials of this road we are now working a five-day week, which means there will be no layoff of any of our Brothers, whereas we were facing a possible layoff of 20 to 40 men, which on the face of it shows a wonderful spirit of co-operation between the local union and management, also the able assistance given by International Vice President Brother Keaveney.

Some of our Brothers individually feel that an injustice has been done them which is not so. If they sat down and reasoned it out they would see the arrangements made were to the best interest of all. We are a local union and should be one for all and all for one, and if these Brothers would throw away their hammers and buy a horn to blow for their local and their local officers and their I. B. E. W. they might be surprised to see how quick things would right themselves for all of us.

Let's find the sunny side of men,
Or be believers in it.

A light there is in every soul
That takes the pains to win it.
O! there's a slumbering good in all,
And we perchance may wake it;
Our hand contains the magic wand—
This life is what we make it.

And so with the best of luck to each and every member of the I. B. E. W., I say so long.

H. H. LITCHFIELD.

L. U. NO. 145, DAVENPORT, IOWA, ROCK ISLAND, MOLINE AND STERLING, ILL.

Editor:

Here we are again. Christmas is over and the New Year is close on. Will have further report to make in January WORKER on our progress and what we did the last year.

But, boy, we are not doing much work; they sure have us thinking. Christmas Eve got another shell game put on us. Our local treasury was just built up the last nine months with a 10 per cent working assessment, to build up our treasury, which last month was just reduced to 6 per cent. Thirty days later this is what happened in Davenport, Iowa. The Union Savings Bank, Northwest Savings Bank,

The Home Savings Bank and the Bettendorf Savings Bank, at Bettendorf, Iowa, closed. You understand these banks have no connection with each other, but all kept open until Saturday evening, before Christmas. They just took all they could get. About 3 o'clock Saturday our treasurer deposited nearly \$400. Try to get it now. This is the second time this happened in less than a year. One bank says they will open the next few days, that they have made arrangements with R. F. C. They had everything well organized, had put up collateral with R. F. C. and were going to start paying off the following Tuesday morning at 50 cents on the dollar, but they cut down on their loan now. They are going to pay only 40 cents on the dollar.

Our local missed this bank and got into the one which is going to close at a later date. They still have one bank that was just reorganized this summer. Now, boys, I am not trying to spread gloom in this writing, but I am just giving you the news of the Tri-Cities for Christmas.

Brother A. K. Fox is at his home the past 30 days mending his injury, which he received about three months ago near Peoria, Ill., where he was in an auto accident. It will be another 30 days before he is able to be out of bed to sit around the house.

Several of our boys are confined at home with colds. The writer, yours truly, has been ill a week and it seems like several to me. But I will be with you next month for further developments.

G. O. WILSON.

L. U. NO. 151, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

Editor:

Throughout this period of depression Local No. 151 has carried on a policy of keeping per capita and insurance payments within the three months' limit on members on our books whether we heard from them or not. Some members we have not heard from for a long time and we have tried very hard to get in touch with them. In some instances we have been successful but we are now face to face with a situation that will cause us to drop some members from the roll unless we hear from them now and then. In fact, we have passed a motion that all members being carried on the books must report to the executive board either in person or in writing once a month or be dropped from membership, it being impossible to keep up these payments without funds.

B. E. HAYLAND.

L. U. NO. 180, VALLEJO, CALIF.

Editor:

Since my last news letter we have made two or three changes in officers. Brother Joe Carrico is now our recording secretary, Brother B. A. Brennan is a delegate to the C. L. C. and Brother I. B. Wyman is again our business manager and delegate to the Business Trades Council and also taking Brother C. Herring's desk as secretary of the Business Trades Council.

Work here is going as good as expected. We have two of the Brothers who are not working this week, but hope to have them out on the job soon.

We all are very sorry to learn that our Brother, A. Feeley, has been sick in San Francisco, and we are very glad to hear that he is coming along as well as could be expected. Hope he calls on us as soon as he is around and about this end of the bay.

Have taken in three new Brothers this month and have one more coming up. Also I see by today's paper that we have a new shop in the city. Will call on the manager at once and line him up with the I. B. E. W.

IRVIN B. WYMAN.

L. U. NO. 211, ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

Editor:

Sure, there is a Santa Claus, even though his clothes be slightly shiny. Casting my eyes towards the east I behold: garters by McCrory, ties by Woolworth, cigarettes from Chesterfield and candy by Loft. Also the pleasure of helping (or hindering, I wonder?) friend wife to make the plum pudding and fruit cake, besides which, breathes there a man with soul so dead who does not relish "lickin'" the dish?

So what more could a poor guy wish for? Unless it be a reduction of the per capita tax or a couple o' days' labor.

We had a swell snowstorm on December 17 that lasted for 14 hours and then turned to sleet. The usual prayer, "Come down, sleet! and take down all them black wyahs," was offered by your correspondent, but it didn't take, so I reckon I ain't living right.

All of which reminds me. I saw in the papers that the Imperial Valley and American desert were visited by a snowfall, the first in 56 years, and I am betting that Horne and his Californians are blaming Mr. Hoover for that. But it won't be long now until Messrs. Roosevelt, Garner and Cantor are carrying the load, with the result that the consumers of the three and two-tenths belly-wash will be able to walk into most any bar and say, "I will gladly pay you Tuesday for a beer today," (with apologies to Pop-Eye's little pal).

During a recent visit to L. U. No. 210 I had the pleasure of "gassing" with a flock of old cronies, among whom were "Army" Armstrong, who hasn't done a tap of electrical work for 15 years, but who still pays his dues regularly; "Jack" Farrell, from Wildwood; "Little Eddie" Jones, chief inspector, Electrical Bureau, Plainville, N. J.; Charles Eichorst, that famous treasury sleuth, Eddie Casto; J. Warren White, "Chick" Graham, "Dutch" Wernitz and that grand old dependable standby, Charles Forsling, alias "The Square-Head." It was he, who, years ago, when asked if he were a lineman, replied, "Naw, I bane a Svede." The one and only way to get his goat is to warble that little ditty, "Ten Thousand Swedes Ran Through the Weeds, at the Battle of Copenhagen" and then run like hell. "Vas you dere, Sharley?"

"Dutch" is convalescing from an appendix operation, so you can easily guess the natural trend of our conversation. But he ain't had nuthin' yet; why he never even had gas pains, nor does he have to eat spinach. And that reminds me; when I read that spinach was not on the bill o' fare for the Army's football team, I tried to pull a fast one on the "Boss" but she only gave me one of those withering glances and replied, "Yeah? well the team wasn't so 'hot' this year either."

Eichorst tried to horn in on the momentous appendix question but his scar was so minute, he was promptly ruled "out of order."

Here's a good one for the W. C. T. U. and others of the prohibition faith: one of the older members of L. U. No. 210 has been "eating" Mail Pouch for 30 years, or maybe more (who knows), but he took a couple of "shots" about eight weeks ago and since then hasn't been able to even look the weed in the face. Migosh, if I thought that stuff was any good for "growing hair" I'd buy a

quart and share it with Bob Armbruster.

Notice that the art of "shooting snipes" has been revived. For years, during the boom times, most everyone was able to buy his or her cigarettes but now it is a common occurrence to see some bimbo run the chances of getting his fingers stepped upon.

That is one of the outdoor sports that I could never go for and when the time arrives when I can't afford to buy my smokes I'll quit 'em cold. Years ago when the bankroll was low they were built out of Dukes Mixture, but when said B. R. was two-bits or more (you know, capital against capital) the old Bull and brown papers were my favorite dessert. However, I knew some fellows who were so proficient that they could shoot a butt while doing 30 miles per hour on the rods. (Believe it or not, Bob Ripley.)

My sincere thanks to Roseman, of Baltimore, for "them gracious words". Haven't had time to look up the meaning of "prolific", but if it means what I think it does, that estimable gent is all wet, as after 19 years all we have running around the house is a lovely step-daughter and three gold fish—the canary died six years ago. So hello to "Whitey" Heffner, with "Buddy, can you spare a dime?"

Yeah, Ollie King and I wore the three-cornered pants around old "Peory", but not at the same time, as he is an old "guy" while I'm just a young "feller."

Greetings to Edward, the "Duke of Toledo". Every time I read of his "village" by the lake it recalls the grand opening of the new Seor Hotel and the reception that followed. Everything was going along nicely until a couple of us decided to do a "Sweet Adeline." After that—not so good. And, believe you me, the cobblestones in that "thar" gutter were hard.

At the general elections of 1908, Guy Spencer and I worked an A. T. and T. wire in the old Boody House. There was a musical comedy company from New York stopping there that was much opposed to Mr. Charles Hughes being elected governor of New York, as he was known to be a strong opponent of horse racing. They were very liberal with "libations" and tips, both cash and house chips, so it didn't take us very long to wise up, with the result that we split nine bucks, or the equivalent, and Mr. Hughes was badly defeated. By the time the stage folks learned the truth the next day we were gone where the woodbine twineth.

As our clothes were not built to withstand the wintry breezes that played around the Spitzer Building corner, we lived on Huron Street, directly across from the Home Telephone Building, with an elderly couple who came originally from Kentucky, and could they cook? About the only old timers I can recall in Toledo, besides Oliver Meyers, are "Red" Lee, who was doing a hitch with Mom Bell and Bob White, of the rail light.

Here's a little tip for "Umbrella Mike", of Chicago-town. Should he need the services of a real racing driver, we can deliver the goods, in the person of Johnnie Moretti, star performer of L. U. No. 211. What it takes to cut the corners on two wheels (or is it one, Johnny?) and still retain his sense of direction and equilibrium, "The Wop" has and nothin' else but.

It would be my supreme delight to be able to build a "Home For the Old Folks" and get them off the air, as it seems that every moaner must do that number.

Heretofore, I have derived a certain amount of pleasure in kidding or riding my old compadre, "Dizzy" Evans, without a thought for his age, as I never realized how quickly the time is passing. But in the

future I will have to show more respect for the old fellow. Yes, sir, for he became a "grand-pop" (or "grand-fawthaw", whichever you prefer) on November 20, and—I'm a sonuvagun—on December 19 he had the kid's application for a helpers' card in L. U. No. 211. Can that "dizz-guy" work fast?

So with best wishes for yourself, Homer Wilson, of Havana (Fla.); "Nemo", of Philly, and "Slim" Allibone, in Clements, N. J., we will call this the end of a perfect day by saying, "Let us repose."

BACHIE.

L. U. NO. 212, CINCINNATI, OHIO

Almost a quarter of a century has proved sufficient for the development of our monthly publication, known as THE JOURNAL OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS AND OPERATORS, from its original small yellow covered booklet to what is now considered one of the best publications ever offered, not only to the electrical worker but to the public in general.

Perhaps a few minutes, going back to the old WORKER would be of interest to some of ye old timers.

I might state that my collection of previous WORKERS is rather complete, it being one of my hobbies to review conditions and happenings of the past.

I have at hand a copy of what at that time was known as "THE ELECTRICAL WORKER" under date of December, 1913, just 20 years ago. As mentioned before this is a small, yellow covered magazine, seven by 10 inches in size, containing 47 pages.

The front cover design represents (according to my idea the strength of education which reaches its highest point, to justice, unity and fraternity, supported on two large columns in memory of Volta, Galvani, Franklin, Edison, Roentgen, Ampere, Ohm, Faraday, Morse, Bell, Tesla and Marconi.

A review inside the covers discloses a report on the 33rd annual convention of the American Federation of Labor held at Seattle, Wash. This report was made by Brothers Frank Glynn, T. E. Lee, Chas. P. Ford and F. J. McNulty. Following is the report of Brothers H. W. Raven, Paul McNally, M. J. Boyle and F. J. McNulty as delegates to the seventh annual convention of the Building Trades Department of The American Federation of Labor, held at Seattle at this same time.

The poet, E. A. Guest, then follows with a contribution of two poems.

Our "In Memoriam" column in those days commanded more prominent space than today, as it appears early in the issue and at this time contains records of the following deaths: Robert Harriman, L. U. No. 541; J. Fletcher, L. U. No. 20; Leon Benway, L. U. No. 442; S. E. Smith, L. U. No. 384, and Howard Mayer, L. U. No. 271.

A review of our executive officers shows at that time the International Office was under the guiding hands of International President F. J. McNulty, International Secretary Chas. P. Ford, International Treasurer W. A. Hogan and International Vice Presidents G. M. Bugniazet, J. P. Noonan and L. C. Grasser.

At this time the question of most concern to all of us was the seceding movement in the ranks of the organized electrical workers of United States and Canada. This was an important discussion at the A. F. of L., Seattle convention and a special conference committee, headed by Samuel Gompers, offered a series of recommendations as a solution to all questions in controversy. These recommendations were accepted by our International Presi-

dent and International Executive Board, they having previously, by our convention, been empowered to deal with the subject. It now remained that they were to be submitted to the membership of the Pacific District Council for referendum action.

I find our cartoonist of today, H. S. Goodwin, also contributed to this issue of 20 years ago with his idea of a mechanic traveling the route of "I. B. E. W.," carrying a key of "Enthusiasm" with which he is about to open the lock of "Success" and enter the building of "Opportunities and Ideal Conditions." (Very good, "Goody".)

Editorials follow in order, the main one, evidently, by our late Brother Ford, bears on a comparison of Mexico's secessionists and ours.

"Local Union Official Receipts," up to and including the 10th of the month, discloses that L. U. No. 212 paid per capita on 16 members and as usual caused no confusion at the International Office with missing, void or blank receipts.

The "Correspondence" starts off as was customary in those days with a good, spicy article by "Baldy", of L. U. No. 1.

Who is there among us who does not remember and didn't get a big kick out of the contributions by "Baldy"? I always had hoped that some day I would have the pleasure of meeting him, which was finally brought about through my trip to the St. Louis convention in 1921. L. U. No. 1 still carries on admirably well and Bill Keller's efforts are more than appreciated by all of us but still there was that certain something by "Baldy" in the old WORKERS that I am always glad to review.

The correspondence following that of "Baldy" in this issue is contributed by Boatman, L. U. No. 66, Houston, Texas; Mizell, L. U. No. 69, Dallas, Texas; Boutchard, L. U. No. 165, Newport, News, Va.; Cameron, L. U. No. 211, Atlantic City; of our humble servant, L. U. No. 212, Cincinnati; Woodhull, L. U. No. 226, Topeka, Kans.; Derbridge, L. U. No. 354, Salt Lake City; Whitford, L. U. No. 534, New York City, and separate copies by both Draper and Whaley, of L. U. No. 716, Houston, Texas. "Baldy" once more appears in the picture with the final article covering a description of the harmonious dealings of all organized crafts during the construction of the Famous Barr Company, large department store in St. Louis.

The "Correspondence" is followed by "Reports of Officers and Organizers" which is ably handled by International Vice President Bugnizet and International Organizer Smith.

Even as today we find that 20 years ago effort was being put forth to enlighten the mind of the average wire fixer, with the result that several columns were run under what was called "Elementary Lessons on Electricity and Magnetism."

This issue of THE ELECTRICAL WORKER closes its pages with a "Local Union Directory", in which I find the business of Local Union No. 212 was in the hands of President J. McFadden, Vice President W. B. Slater, F. Sery, A. Liebewood, Recording Secretary E. Simonton and Business Agent J. A. Cullen and were meeting every Wednesday night at Cosmopolitan Hall, 1313 Vine Street.

Yes, this has been a review of old stuff and I doubt if many have had the patience to carry on to the end of my copy, but to those who have I am quite sure you will find somewhere a reminder of pleasant happenings of years gone by, which will justify my efforts.

However, I wish you all a Happy New Year.

THE COPYIST.

L. U. NO. 214, CHICAGO, ILL.

Editor:

The yule season is here. It is supposed to be a season of good cheer. For many of our Brothers it will hold irony in its conception of the times. Even amongst many of our own members of our Local No. 214 it will be hard to explain to the young ones why there aren't any presents on Christmas morn. There lies the irony of fate.

Local Union No. 214 is still in existence notwithstanding the absence of a letter to the JOURNAL. However, to many of our members in the Chicago area, judging by their attendance at the meetings we are off the list. Why so many of our members leave it to "George" to do it, remains a mystery in the mind of the writer.

On December 13, a meeting was held for the benefit of all railroad workers (electricians) in the Chicago area. At this meeting, questions relating to the present conference on wages and conditions were discussed.

The apathy shown by our members was demonstrated by their conspicuous absence. If you are not interested in the organization sufficiently to attend a meeting to find out what it is doing to protect your economic welfare on which hinges your entire well-being socially and otherwise, then if you suffer wage cuts, loss of working conditions, do not blame anyone but yourself. Nothing was ever gained that meant anything without a concerted and united effort.

Railroads today base their claim for a reduction in pay to the oft-heard plea that they are unable to meet their "fixed charges." This, of course, means that the capital expenditures in railroads takes precedence over the human value involved in the industry. Perhaps if the matter was taken today from the "reproduction cost" theory advanced some years ago, the matter of fixed charges could be met on present reproduction cost.

Again we have demonstrated to us that

THEY DON'T SPEAK OUR LANGUAGE—By Webster



when it comes to protecting capital politics does not sleep in different beds, as noted by the so-called Coolidge committee on railroads. Coolidge, a former president of the Republican faith; Smith, a former candidate for president in the Democratic party, and Bernard Baruch, a stockholder in railroads. If we, as workers, forgot our respective political faiths likewise, we, too, would perhaps protect our human welfare better.

Leading industrialists, bankers, political leaders, and whatnots met some few months ago to devise means of eliminating employment—I beg your pardon, it was unemployment. Two outstanding features emanating therefrom were the "Share-the-Work program" and "Rehabilitation of Industry". Analyzed just what do they mean? This, of course, is just the humble opinion of the writer. First, share the work program. Managers of industry are supposed to employ more workers in their industries, but, no added expense is to be added. This means that if 100 workers are now employed and they receive \$25 per week, time will be reduced to make room for another 25 workers. Wages will be reduced proportionately, which, of course, means that the purchasing power remains the same. Futile! Second, rehabilitating of industry. This means that such industries that now have obsolete machinery will replace same by modern ones. Of course, this will provide work for those making machinery but when installed it will throw out of employment those workers whom it will displace. And history proves that where new machinery was installed workers were thrown out on the street. So as I see it, something more fundamental is needed than the above-mentioned plan.

Personally, I think that there is only one sound economic theory to reduce unemployment, and that is to reduce working hours and increase wages, so that the employed worker can buy back the product of his labor.

Beer, ah, you soft foamy creamy beer. You are talked of as ending most of our present ills. Does your mouth water for some? Do not rush it yet. You see we have a few items to settle before beer comes back. First there is the question of agreeing on a bill, then passing same, then overriding a possible veto, then making the Supreme Court change its mind on the question of alcoholic content. No one has yet told me where I shall get the money wherewith to buy said beer, and if I do spend some of it on beer, what other items of necessity or luxury will I omit buying, thereby depriving said industry of my consumption? Beer is not the cure for our ills.

You will note that I have omitted figures in this letter. I am saving them for my next letter, as I hope by that time I shall have received my income tax blank and made my budget balance for the year, so, therefore, I shall leave all mathematical problems for them.

In conclusion permit me to say to you this much: attend your meetings, pay up your dues, take an interest in your organization and, to those of you on the outside, join now and help us keep what we have and strive to get that which we as producers deserve.

A. M. CORAZZA.

L. U. NO. 226, TOPEKA, KANS.

Editor:

I am indeed pleased that the editor of this workingman's monthly has started a fight on that insidious evil, the sales tax.

One of the greatest hindrances to a return to good times is unequal distribution of wealth. A few have the wealth and are

unable to spend it, so the money is "frozen." A million dollars in a vault may be worth \$1,000,000 to the owner if and when he chooses to spend it but is worthless to society until that time.

A million dollars in circulation, changing hands a number of times is worth a number of millions to society.

A big income tax will help to redistribute swollen fortunes and prevent stoppage of circulation of wealth.

I am aware that Mr. Mellon says that high income taxes discourage enterprise. Let Mr. Mellon include exploitation of society in his "discourage" charge and we will gladly agree with him and contend that anything that discourages a few from corraling all the wealth and stagnating business is good for society.

Society and not business men create business. The smart business man merely diverts as much of that business from the general stream as he is able.

For instance, let some big business magnate start another electrical contracting shop in your town. Will he make more electrical work or force the other shops to divide with him?

If high income taxes discourage Mr. Andrew Mellon and he gets out of the aluminum business there will be plenty of other men ready to take it up. This would give several other men a chance to make something.

But a sales tax which, as Mr. Hoover and Mr. Coolidge contend, "spread the tax out at the bottom" (where most of the tax is already) retards purchases of goods and labor.

The only objection to an income tax is its inability to be passed on to the ultimate consumer.

If our lawmakers really wish to help the forgotten man let them impose graduated income taxes, confiscatory in the higher brackets and remove all forms of sales taxes which obstruct business revival.

Labor must be awake or we will all become serfs and peons.

Incidentally are we paying Congressmen to go to Washington to make a lot of noise? If so, their big salaries are well earned. One would think that this would be a good time for action instead of buck-passing and inaction.

Jobs and not booze is the important question today. The rank and file will continue to brew their own until we get some jobs and are able to buy bread and pay dues again.

J. R. WOODHULL.

1019 West 16th Street, Topeka, Kans.

L. U. NO. 230, VICTORIA, B. C.

Editor:

On the morning of December 22, Victoria was visited by the usual winter storm which arrives around Christmas time each year. The wind sprang up from the southwest and tore over the city in a 60-mile gale which in gusts reached a velocity of 70 miles an hour. Official records state this to be the hardest blow in 40 years.

Just as the workers, who are still lucky enough to be workers, turned on the lights, these same blinkety lights gave a few spasmodic blinks and went out. Most people have an oil lamp, relics of ancient days, stored away, but, like the foolish virgins, they have no oil for them, so after frantic scurrying around, last year's Christmas candles and various old stabs became the order of the day, but it was not long before, after a few tantalizing winks, the light became normal again.

Along the waterfront the scene was spec-

tacular in the extreme, especially at the Ross Bay sea wall, which is a part of the Marine Driveway, built for its splendid view and as a protection from storms for the cemetery. Here the most damage was done, for huge logs and pieces of timber and other debris were swept on mountainous waves right across the driveway, demolishing the massive, cement terrace on their way, and were left strewn around the lower part of the cemetery. Along an adjoining street people were flooded out and their yards and doorways were littered with the flotsam of the sea. Some years ago a community of Bible students settled here. According to their interpretation of the Scriptures, Vancouver Island was slated to exist long after the rest of the world was destroyed, but as this island is about four-thirds rock, which is split open in places so that trees can grow and enough dirt gathers in the hollows to grow our vegetables, I think their judgment was largely based on the rock. The community had its little day and passed on, and this last storm, bad as it was on account of the extremely high tide at the time, has not shifted this island one iota, although, to satisfy the fearful doubts of some of our residents, I personally went to the beach, and by careful calculations with the latest scientific instruments designed by Einstein for this purpose, I satisfied myself that we are in exactly the same latitude and longitude as we were before the storm. When I returned and informed my neighbors of the results of my investigation they were so overjoyed that they fell on my neck and crushed—I mean blessed—me.

Needless to say, that at the first blink of the lights, our noble band of good wood-butchers mounted their hobby horses and galloped into the fray and were busy all day and most of the night clearing up the major troubles, but it will be some time yet before the trouble is finally cleared up. The downpour of rain which accompanied the wind made line work especially dangerous. Any old hiker knows what handling the "hot stuff" means with wet rubber gloves and water streaming down the slickers. Our Jordan River powerhouse and substation operators all had their troubles, too, as well as our Brothers on the phone, but it was good to see the faces of some who had been laid off back again on the job, even if only temporarily.

By the time this reaches print I hope all the Brothers, including our officers, will have enjoyed the very best Christmas and New Year's possible under the present circumstances.

SHAPPIK.

L. U. NO. 292, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Editor:

The recent A. F. of L. convention showed quite a measure of progressiveness in its proceedings. Upon this progressive attitude it is to be congratulated; and yet one wonders if this has not come too late (in fact, about three years too late) to be of any important value in the saving of the situation. The six-hour day and the five-day week and unemployment insurance have been advocated by the more far-sighted members of the labor movement for several years. When the present depression set in, in 1929, the time was ripe for action; the demand was imperative; the need was great, and grew ever greater as time went on. The point is that, if it took three years for the Federation to waken to a sufficient realization to the imperative need of this program, to pass resolutions in its advocacy, how long will it require for it to organize sufficient action to put these things into operation?

The officers and delegates at the convention seemed to concur unanimously in President Green's statement that, "these measures must be secured, by peaceful means, if possible, but if not, then force must be used." But does that mean anything? Is it not a matter of just words, nothing but words? The A. F. of L. is so lacking in disciplinary powers that its securing of the necessary action, by the general membership in a sufficiently effective degree is, to say the least, rather problematical. In fact, the entire labor movement is too loosely organized to secure efficiency of action in the promotion of its programs. The A. F. of L., the state federations, the various local central bodies, all lack that degree of disciplinary power that is essential for the securing of the necessary unity of action to effectively promote the carrying out of any given program. This brings us down to the local unions and, ascending the scale again, the district councils and the internationals; these have, or should have, sufficient disciplinary power to secure some measure of efficient action toward the consummation of the end in view.

In the foregoing it is no part of my intention to throw cold water, either on the action of the convention or on any efforts that may be made in the attempt to put these measures into operation. But it is no

use blinking at facts and it is the calling of these facts to the rank and file of the membership that is attempted here. Nor does what is said above cover all the ground. There is another factor which is of major importance as affecting the situation, viz.: The deteriorative effect of the depression on the morale and quality of membership of the local unions and, consequently, upon the labor movement as a whole.

Every labor union is composed of two more or less distinctive types of members. First, there are those real union men who are heart and soul for the union and all its principles; the militant fighters who uphold the union policies and ideals and make the employers live up to the union rules and whom the union can always depend upon in times of trouble. Second, there is the other type of member—the man who carries a union card only because he has to and only for what he can get out of it; the man who will at times even help the employer to evade the union rules and, sometimes, will even act as a spy for the employer, and who in times of stress can not be depended on by the organization.

In times of depression, such as the present, when the local's control of the situation is weakened, the employers will take advantage of the situation to discriminate against the former type, in favor of the latter,

which results in the real union man being the one who is unable to pay his dues and, therefore, eventually the one who is dropped from membership in the local, on account of his lack of employment. On the other hand, the weak-kneed, the boss's pet, and the stool-pigeon, through retaining their jobs, are able to keep themselves in good standing; and the result is, that at the end of any serious depression the character of the membership of the union is lowered in quality, in direct proportion to the length and severity of the depression. In other words, the labor movement becomes filled with a lot of mighty poor timber with which to accomplish any desired results, in the way of bettering conditions; hence, the above assertion that the A. F. of L. was three years late in their espousal of the 30-hour week and unemployment insurance.

These facts show the disadvantages under which the labor movement finds itself today, and a recognition of them is necessary in order that we may realize the need, and be able to formulate the proper plan, for overcoming their hampering influences.

One of our members, in speaking of the action taken in the A. F. of L. convention, said, "Will they be able to do anything or is it only a grandstand play?" The italics are mine, used to stress an attitude of mind that seems to be all too prevalent among a considerable portion of the members of the labor movement. The pronoun should be *we*, not *they*. We are the foundation and strength of the A. F. of L. and, as stated above, the only bodies in the labor movement which are organized with a sufficient amount of disciplinary power to accomplish any results along this line, are the local unions and their internationals. There is where the effective action must be looked for if we are to produce the desired results. It is up to the local unions, working in co-operation with each other and with their internationals, to put over the features of the program that has been endorsed by the A. F. of L.

From the foregoing it would seem that two moves are imperative if the labor movement is to function properly. One is that the various delegate bodies—the A. F. of L., the state federations, etc.—should be reorganized into more closely knit organizations, with more disciplinary powers over their affiliated bodies. The other, and far more important one, is for the different craft organizations to institute some policy for the adjustment of the dues problem that will save the membership in times of depression.

W. WAPLES.

What This Country Needs

(In answer to President Hoover's need for a great poem)

What this country needs, it is a safe-sure bet
Is something that it has never had as yet;
And something that it never will attain
While selfishness subjects the human brain.

Perhaps it needs a race of nobler mien
Than any that the patient earth has seen;
A race of men, whose sympathies are deeper
Than those who cry: "I'm not my brother's keeper."

A race of men, who will not gaze askance
At others in the grip of circumstance;
Super-men perhaps! Immune to graft and greed,
Superior men in action, thought and deed
To this blind bunch of individualists,
Acquisitive, self-centered egotists;
Concerned with nothing that won't fill the purse,
Blotches on a perfect universe.
Nation against nation, rich against poor
Hastening the day they'll evolve as manure;
Perverted butchers, vulturous fowls,
Sadistic monsters, mammonized ghouls;
Eager blood spillers who fondle the gun,
Scum of the waters, spots on the sun;
Shackled to self while posing as free;
Prating of progress that breeds poverty.
Yes, sir! I long have had a hunch
That new stock must replace this mongrel bunch
Of long-faced hypocrites. Spawns who preach,
Then practice the reverse of what they teach.
Patriots who sing:—"Oh, my America!"
Meanwhile they set up plants in Jericho,
To the tune of: "Sweetly I Sing to Thee
My Uncle Sammy, Land of Liberty"
And highest-paid workers in all history.
You're in the bread line now—but wait awhile
Things will be all right if you only smile,
"Prosperity is just around the corner,"
And if you stand there "as did Johnnie Horner,
You'll see him round it in a Limousine"—
"Oh, yeah!" you say in tones that tinged with spleen,
"How come then, I'm still eating margarine—
Where do I get mine, I'm not in that machine?"
"Where you always get it, brother!—on the bean."

ERNEST HYETT.
Minneapolis Labor Review

L. U. NO. 303, ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

Editor:

The December JOURNAL arrived with a letter and a newspaper from Vancouver. A friend of 26 years sent them to me and his letter and the Vancouver Sunday Sun were full of technocracy. He is an enthusiast for it, and knows my interest in things progressive, especially this idea which we have often discussed. Now the JOURNAL gives a splendid description but the Vancouver Sunday Sun has given columns of its pages and will continue to do so for several weeks. In it we read of a new material called ramie. Let me quote the "Sun's" own words:

"If the comparatively new fibrous nettle plant, ramie, is introduced to industry (and eventually it will be) the entire wood pulp, silk, wool and cotton industries, would be very seriously affected. Ramie has a 22-inch fibre, can be raised 1,500 pounds to the acre (compared to 150 pounds of cotton) and two or three crops can be obtained in a year in the southern states. There is no problem

of picking since it can be cut and bound with a thresher.

"If made into suits it wears seven times as well as wool, and several hundred times better than cotton. It has the advantageous property of being stronger when wet than when dry. It can be made into paper cheaper than wood pulp and the paper can't be torn by the human hand. It has a lustre similar to silk and linen, can be woven with silk and rayon or wool and cotton and takes dyes beautifully."

So much for ramie. Hope this will interest my Brother electrical workers. Another paragraph says:

"For 7,000 years of social history there was no change in the rate of doing work. The human being was the best engine society had." May I add to this and say, "And exploited to the full just the same as the lower animals are and were."

It would seem that the dream of many of us (and one of mine for many years) may come true, that we are going to make things for use and not for profit. As the technocracy says, make the machine serve man, not man serve the machine. And don't they rap the price system? No doubt money as a token of exchange had its use. But as Shakespeare says (I think it was he), "The love of money is the root of all evil." My mother would tell me this when I was quite small and it took a long time to get right into my thick head, but it did and I was quite a youth when it got there. Since then we have seen what it means—the grasping, hunting after, by any means, to get money. And it has made a sorry mess of this old world, nearly as bad as the old power of kings and barons. This idea should be thoroughly taken up before it is too late. The courage of the owner of the New Outlook is to be admired because, as they say (the technologists), every new truth passes through three stages: First, men say it is obviously false, then they grudgingly accept it. And last, deny they have ever questioned but have constantly preached it. Again let us admire the courage of Mr. Al Smith's New Outlook in printing something so radical when most of the folks are worshipping at the golden calf. However, many of them have found out the golden calf is a fake, the damn thing can't do nothing for them, so in despair they listen to the technologists. Those who read these letters will remember my yelping about our services being valued in money, in fact, our whole existence from our birth, which costs plenty of money, our life always has a money price. All we do or buy seems to be weighed in money. What will it cost? How much is it? Can I afford it? and so on. And then when we pass along, I'll be doggoned if someone doesn't have to pay plenty for us to pass out. Yes, this is worth looking into, well worth looking into, and the JOURNAL, through lack of space, did not give enough to show what it was all about. Like my Vancouver friend, I'm surely shaken by the idea that I can't stop my pen, but before changing the subject let me tell you this from the "Sun":

"A factory for the production of rayon yarn is nearing completion in New Jersey. Its operation is entirely mechanical and production can be carried on without a worker in the plant. By means of photo-electric cells it will be possible for an official in New York to change dyes without leaving his desk and without human assistance at the plant.

We all realize that this "cutting out" of labor means folks thrown on the sidewalk and no place to go. And those of you who think you buy your cigarettes cheap read what technocracy says:

"Machines were recently installed which

produce 2,500 to 2,600 cigarettes per minute." Smokes for all.

It was good to see Brother Horne's letter because seeing the letter tells us he is back on the job. Glad to know that he is well again. That part of your letter, Brother Horne, telling of those foolish Brothers who quit on account of the firing of the business agent. This was a clear case of cutting off one's nose to spite his face. Just imagine 30 years' good standing and throwing it away in protest, no doubt over what the International President had done. At the time the International President went out with his axe I feared something like this would happen. Fact is, I thought it would be worse than it has been. Well, let's hope the Brotherhood generally will read this and ponder over it. Those dual outfits always end in disaster; can't help it as their birth is in spite and enmity.

Yes, Brother Horne, I was very much impressed by that portion of your letter. It is indeed a big disappointment. Well do I remember Local No. 303 being practically swept away when the E. W. B. A. came into being, all except three of us withdrew—two Brothers, whose age prevented them belonging, and myself, who was eligible. However, we carried on, but haven't got any place, but we have gained some very worthy members since those days.

Those reading this note will find my wishes a trifle late but nevertheless sincere to all the Brotherhood. A very Happy 1933. Good health and good luck.

THOS. W. DEALY.

L. U. NO. 323, WEST PALM BEACH, FLA.

Editor:

"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he who stands it now deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap we esteem too lightly; it is dearer only that gives anything its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; * * *"

This was written by Thomas Paine more than 150 years ago. It still holds good today. When opportunity presents itself, we strive harder to prepare ourselves better and learn to think. When work is lacking we naturally must do without as most electricians are doing now—depriving themselves of every luxury and in some cases, the bare necessities. I am sorry for them and would do anything I could to help. I would like to see conditions get so good that everyone would work night and day as they did here during the "boom." But when things are as they are today it brings out what kind of stuff men are made of.

I was interested in the article from L. U. No. 1 last month on making conditions better for the radio man. They surely need something the way they go around here cutting each other's throats. Some of them do work for fun and others try to charge enough for the parts they sell to make a few cents for their labor.

Now take the motion picture operators: The union operators were pushed out and we have no union theatre running here now. The union operators are building a theatre of their own and it is almost finished. We hope they have good luck with it.

There is very little electrical work here now, although this is supposed to be our busiest period—getting all the homes in Palm Beach ready for the season.

I would like to see the JOURNAL print a page on the latest inventions and new circuits controlled by the photo-electric cell. It would be interesting and educational.

Well, I will sign off hoping we are beginning a better year.

WADE SUTTON.

L. U. NO. 349, MIAMI, FLA.

Editor:

Our 22nd anniversary birthday party on the evening of December 17, 1932, was one of the most enjoyable occasions we have ever experienced. Everyone seemed to forget their troubles and grievances for the evening and a spirit of good fellowship and unity prevailed.

The party was a worthy one if no other good resulted from it than the achievement of this objective.

The success of the party was largely due to the careful and efficient planning by the chairman of the entertainment committee, Brother Francis Lavigne, ably assisted by the women's auxiliary. These good folks kept things moving and we are very grateful to them.

The entertainment was furnished through the courtesy of Billy Bullers Studio of Dance and was the main attraction of the evening. As a grand finale to their wonderful floor show, Mr. and Mrs. Buller danced two novelty numbers for us and we feel highly honored in having them put on this personal performance, as they are truly high class artists.

Other high spots of the evening were as follows:

Opening address giving a brief history of our local union was very capably given by Vice President Harry Buetner.

Address of welcome and explanation of the activities of the women's auxiliary were given by President Mrs. Lou Wessels.

The three oldest members in our local—Brothers Drew Allen, A. J. Taunton and William S. Wallis—gave splendid talks suitable to the occasion. Brother Drew Allen (city electrical inspector) was the only charter member of the local present at our party. Brother Allen's card is about 30 years old and he is still one of our most enthusiastic and loyal members. We owe a great deal to men of this type and we are proud to have them among us.

Business Manager Frank G. Roche was in his usual jovial mood and good form—a perfect 38%, to be exact.

Bob Colvin was in charge of the "music box" and his technique was unusually good.

Paul Cartledge (head waiter and what-not) stopped the show with his juggling act, at one time he was seen with five "schooners" in each hand and one on his forehead. We wonder if he remembers that?

Perry Brown, as chief beverage tester and cork puller, worked with machine-like precision and it was through his untiring efforts that the good Brothers were able to forget the "repression" for the moment.

Ray Roberts was doing well as official bouncer and "door man" until one of the stalwarts of the women's auxiliary decided to brush him aside.

All in all it was a great party.

CLARENCE GRIMM.

L. U. NO. 382, COLUMBIA, S. C.

Editor:

After an absence of uncertain duration, I will endeavor to bring Local No. 382 again into print in our JOURNAL. If I had maintained my silence I would not have had to suffer all the bodily harm that I have been threatened with if I failed to have a letter in the JOURNAL for January, 1933. I'll get even with Brother Ed Outlaw yet!

I was glad to see all of our old stand-bys present at our last meeting, it being Tuesday after Christmas, with the exception of Brother "Blackie" White. I hope the rabbit sheriff (game warden) didn't get him for hunting rabbits and birdies without a button (license).

This being my first attempt at writing for our JOURNAL, I hope Mr. Editor will be kind to me. If Old Man W. B. gets this letter I will have to pull the vanishing act and ankle touring doesn't appeal to me at all.

The fast passing year has been one of the hardest years that we have experienced. We have had many setbacks and problems to face, such as unfaithful members, rat competition, lack of work and many other unpleasanties, all of which were due to the "past" depression. Ahem! With the coming of the new year, we have much to look forward to—a new President 'n' everything.

We have but a small bunch in our local at present. We have lost some members lately but I am sure that what we have left are dyed-in-the-wool union men and if they will keep the same spirit and attitude that they have shown in the past year we can not help but win. Let's stick together, boys, and win! Brother "Hard Rock" Johnnie Rivers, take notice; I have not even mentioned you at all or our very much discussed but more often cussed business manager, our good Brother, Oscar Gamble—with a gambler of his type for business manager, we can't shoot a crap.

C. T. GARTMAN.

L. U. NO. 409, WINNIPEG, CANADA

Editor:

At our last meeting held on December 1 Chairman Poapst's gavel fell one-half hour earlier than usual on account of the special open meeting scheduled for 8:30 p. m. at which Brothers McGlogan, and McEwan were the chief speakers.

An invitation was extended to all railway electrical workers regardless of affiliation for this meeting; notices to this effect were mailed by Brother G. Watkins. Regular business was cleared up in short order so that no hitch might occur as it was necessary that all possible time should be devoted to hearing these visiting Brothers.

Promptly at 8:30 the chairman brought the meeting to order and called on Brother McBride, who alone with Brother Macintosh were sitting in with the boys to get an earful.

Brother McBride arose and intimated that this was his object in being present, Brother Macintosh was next called upon, and in a few words summed up the present situation between the two major railroads in Canada as "Annihilation, not amalgamation."

Brother McEwan was next heard from, and this Brother dealt at length with the Duff report, at times reading extracts therefrom to emphasize his remarks. This report, as many will be familiar with, centers chiefly on what is termed co-operation in management and operation between the two railroads under discussion. Hence Brother Macintosh's remark above.

Brother McEwan pointed out the drastic action contemplated by this commission, and their far-reaching effects, and urged that political action might be the only course for us to take.

This report has already passed the Senate, and is now awaiting the assembling of the House in January to go before the Commons.

The issue is now on the brink of a precipice, and unless some favorable action is taken a crash is inevitable.

A gleam of hope lies in the eloquence of our labor representatives in the House, and of members of the opposition who are in favor of a continuance under similar lines, and we may count on these members to oppose this report, but judging by the press, and the hot air shot out at intervals by the Bennett party we can only watch, and pray.

Brother McGlogan assured us that the Duff report bore no weight in itself, being a commission set up by the government, and independent of the railway, and that it could be rejected in whole or in part or amended, and had to be passed upon by both houses before it became effective.

He outlined his activities concerning his meetings with various railway boards across the line, and stressed the entire absence of the human element in the negotiations. A deaf ear was turned on all propositions put up for the benefit of the workers by their representatives, and the only answer elicited, he told us, was "Where are we going to get the money? Five and three-fourths per cent dividends must be paid."

What a situation for a country, ostensibly the richest in the world, and which just received from England \$95,500,000. How much of it will go for the relief of the workers, or I should say, workless? I think it's a safe bet to say, not a penny; in fact, by the look of affairs since the elections things will go from bad to worse for the next four years unless something unforeseen happens.

Brother McGlogan will differ from me in this respect as he stated that the President-elect was more favorable to labor. As an individual he may be, but his party is anything but that, and that five and three-quarters per cent will still have to be found at the expense of the worker.

We gleaned from other of Brother McGlogan's remarks the important link between the railways of the United States and Canada in so far as conditions of pay affected us. We invariably followed the lead given by the United States Railways. These conditions, together with working conditions, he attributed most forcefully to the activities of the I. B. E. W. in affiliation with other crafts in the A. F. of L. These activities, he said, were instrumental in averting a 20 per cent cut to become effective early in the New Year.

He dealt at some length on the question of the pension and insurance scheme in connection with our dues, and the importance of each member to do his bit in getting the non-member or dropped member into the fold, as now as never before do we need unity. Pamphlets were handed around to pass on after perusal to these delinquents, outlining several reasons why he should be a member or a steady member as the case may be. These "plain talks" are full of such information that answer the varied questions one is not quite clear on or that one is confronted with by a non-member.

Brother McGlogan was in jovial spirits, and interspersed his remarks with an anecdote or two to bring home a point. I was told quite confidentially that the real reason of the joviality was my complimentary remark in referring to him as a Scotchman in the November JOURNAL. I hope Brother McEwan will forgive me for this mistake, not being a "Heelander" mesel all Mc's are Scotch to me unless corrected

The bound volumes of the 1932 Electrical Workers Journal are to be sold again this year for \$3.75 postage prepaid. They are uniform with the volumes of other years, one-fourth leather, handsome and durable.

otherwise. How about the four "Macs" forming a rink this coming curling season, boys?

Local No. 409 joins me in extending good wishes to the officers and members of the I. B. E. W. for the coming year, and may it bring a more hopeful and brighter outlook than did 1932.

R. J. GANT.

L. U. NO. 418, PASADENA, CALIF.

Editor:

Unemployment being the prevailing topic, I shall try to tell of the efforts being made to relieve same hereabouts.

Los Angeles County is caring for the largest number of penniless people in its history and is providing work at 40 cents an hour to heads of families able to work who apply for relief. The bulk of the work is on road, park and flood control projects. One of the latter jobs was rushed to completion in October and November and employed over 1,500 men at one time working in three shifts.

Bids are all in for a second county flood control dam on the San Gabriel River and the contract was due to be let this week. This job will directly employ 200 to 400 men.

Some effort was made to stampede this county into a \$12,000,000 unemployment relief bond issue six months ago, but for some reason did not come to a vote. Pasadena voted down a \$200,000 bond issue of this kind on November 11.

Pasadena, through its parks, water and light departments, has provided a big measure of relief; the light department alone is said to have spent about \$3,000,000 in advancing its underground construction program, in building a large, new warehouse and in increasing the light plant capacity some 20,000 k.v.a., during the past 18 months with a slight cut in wages for skilled labor.

The Metropolitan Water District has announced that work will start soon on its aqueduct from the Colorado River, starting with about 1,000 men and increasing to 4,000 by June, 1933, only residents of one year in the district being eligible for employment. The wages to be paid are being protested against by organized labor through the Los Angeles Central Labor Council, which plans to take its protest to court, if necessary.

Legal obstacles are being removed and work is expected to start during 1933 on the All American Canal, from the Colorado River to Imperial Valley. This is another large project and should furnish employment to a large number of men.

Pasadena and Los Angeles banks have reduced interest rates on some accounts to 2 and 3 per cent. We hope this will have a tendency to put some of this idle money to work soon.

We wish all the officers and members of the I. B. of E. W. a brighter New Year.

H. W. HUNEVEN.

L. U. NO. 595, OAKLAND, CALIF.

Editor:

Our esteemed but misguided president, has allotted to me the task at this time of propounding my views for the benefit of all concerned. He has generously conceded to me the privilege of selecting my own subject and placed no restrictions upon the language I should use in expounding said views, notwithstanding the fact he has heard me many times in heated debate in meetings assembled.

The word depression should be tabooed for it has become almost nauseating; how-

ever, it has been for the past three years, so to speak, a theme word. It is still with us, on the tip of every person's tongue, and will not be downed for the count. The cause of this calamity has brought about more arguments, more disagreements, and more futile attempts and misguided actions to alleviate the condition, than any other subject ever placed on the world's rostrum, not excepting religion. My own personal views I refrain from divulging, for I know it would be useless.

The results to date is another subject and easily disposed of, because it requires simply a statement of facts.

The following conditions apply locally, but I presume are also applicable to many localities: Prior to the most serious stages of this deflation, we conscientiously believed we could create work for more men by inaugurating the five-day week. It was not because we wanted more leisure time, or less money, but emanated from a desire to share with those of our Brothers unemployed.

In the face of opposition of our contractors, we put it over. Did it accomplish the desired results we so earnestly wished for? It did not. On the contrary, employment became less and steadily continued to dwindle, for two reasons:

First. Construction practically ceased. Second. Evasion and coercion on the part of a portion of our contractors, and the pitiful necessity of employment of our members, had a tendency to not only nullify our five-day week plan, but also undermine the morale of our organization.

Next, our dear "fathers of finance," who, ever-solicitous of the "dear public" conceived the idea that this would be an advantageous opportunity to create more activity in the building trades, reluctantly (?) proposed to us that we co-operate by accepting a slash in wages of 10 or 12 per cent, throughout the state. Did we oppose it? We did not. Now, the six-hour day is advanced as another panacea, and our Building Trades Council has endorsed it, and is getting a referendum vote from all affiliated crafts. Will it pass? It will.

Here is the colored gentleman in the woodpile: We tacitly agree to accept six hours' pay for six hours' work, based on an \$8 scale for eight hours. Personally, I am radically in favor of a six-hour day, but positively do not endorse a reduction in wages. At the present time I am even in favor of a six-hour day with the reduction, if it will relieve the unemployment situation, but there is no such animal as work under any conditions.

There is one, and only one, method of securing and enforcing the six-hour day, and that is through legislative channels of our state and national law-making bodies, thereby making it compulsory. Unfortunately, and sad to relate, we still have with us that wonderful, self-constituted body of staunch public defenders, our so-called Industrial Relations Association, a by-product of our dear American Plan system. The avowed purpose of this concern is to satisfy their insatiable desire to bring about confusion, dissension and the complete elimination of organized labor and all it represents. In other words, trim us down to a level with the peon and compel acceptance on our part of anything they see fit to dole out to us.

Are they taking advantage of the present conditions? They are. They are announcing a further 10 per cent cut. What a futile gesture! Here is the question in my mind. After accepting all these proposals under the hallucination that we are doing our share to overcome these unfortunate conditions, how long, oh how long is it going to take us to accomplish a comeback, after

that evasive prosperity emerges from around that movable corner?

Brothers, I maintain that it is about time to tighten up our fences, go to the bat and retain at least what we have, rather than to sit supinely by taking the half loaf, thinking it better than none, and not even getting the half. We have passed through nerve-shattering experiences in the past three years, struggled to protect our membership, and I am proud to say that we still have all the old guard left, the boys still imbued with that old fighting spirit, the men who have fought for and upbuilt our organization, devoting their best efforts and time toward the betterment of our conditions, for years, and don't let anybody tell you that this bunch is licked. "Card men" have automatically eliminated themselves, poor, misinformed mortals! Our officers have passed through many trying ordeals, been the victims of much criticism in performing their duties, but they are still on deck and going strong.

To our International Officers we extend our sympathies and congratulate you upon the manner in which you have performed your herculean tasks during this trying period. It is rather late to extend Christmas greetings, but we most heartily wish you and all members of the Brotherhood a happy and more prosperous New Year. The December WORKER is a magnificent creation, and crammed with exceedingly interesting articles and worthy of much praise. Brothers, pass it on to your friends.

L. E. POLLARD.

L. U. NO. 605, SAINT JOHN, N. B.
Editor:

The moose and deer stories I promised have not appeared as yet. No, I don't think the boys have lost their skill nor are too poor to buy ammunition—just waiting until this summer weather we've been having this fall passes over so the game won't spoil. So cheer up; better news next time.

Well, Local No. 605, of New Brunswick, held their regular meeting on October 27 with a good attendance and why shouldn't we, when our genial representative, Brother J. Brodrick, was there to swing the gavel and hold down the chair (no, indeed, the

chair didn't move), but all jokes aside, we are always glad to have Brother Brodrick with us and look forward to his coming.

Brother Brodrick then gave us an address and dealt in an able manner with the questions of insurance and pensions.

Saint John will again be on the map as a skating and hockey center, for a new rink called the Forum is being built on Main Street and I am sure the skaters and hockey fans will be in their glory this year.

We extend our congratulations to the Port Royal Pulp Mill, who had their official opening November 4, with Mayor James Brittain opening the valve which actually sent the first pulp over the rollers since the new company have reconditioned the mill. Great credit is due to the men who must have taken such care, for the first run of pulp was a success. Pulp that takes first place with the best is being turned out now in a steady stream.

Seems early, but we won't have another letter to you before, so here goes, to one and all a Happy New Year, in the same old-fashioned way.

N. R. BETZ.

L. U. NO. 734, NORFOLK, VA.

Editor:

Buy American!

This nation has been threatened with reprisal in the form of boycott if the United States insists on payment of war debts. A visit today to American department stores causes one to wonder at the possibilities of a back-fire. We see French perfumes and clothing at exorbitant prices. Eighty per cent of the price is for "French" and 20 per cent for the article. Buy American! We find English leather goods and woollens at a much greater price than that charged for the American equivalent and in memory we see Great Britain covered with posters bearing the slogan "Buy British." Buy American!

In the low-priced chain stores we will find a group of Americans milling, crowding and pushing before a counter piled high with crude, shoddy and defective brassware "made in China" or "made in Japan." Buy American! At the toy counter, cheap, fragile toys bearing the mark, "made in

NOTICE

Daily, the International Office receives notices from the Post Office advising of changes in addresses of members to whom the Journal has been sent.

These notices entail a large and seemingly unnecessary expense to the International Office especially noticeable at this time when we are endeavoring to curtail expenses.

We therefore ask your co-operation. You will assist greatly by notifying the I. O. of any change in address made or contemplated. Be sure to give us your old and new address.

A form is given for your use.

Notice of Change in Address

(Name)

(L. U. No.)

(Old Address)

(New Address)

Germany", "made in Japan" or "made in Czecho-Slovakia." Buy American!

The American wage earner apparently does not realize that in buying these foreign-made articles, he is stifling American industry and that every American workman thus forced out of employment is a potential candidate for your job and mine. Buy American!

American industry cannot be expected to duplicate some articles of foreign manufacture for the same retail price because there is a vast difference between the wage of the most poorly paid American worker and that of the European or Asiatic and this difference is not compensated by tariff. However, the necessary difference of a few cents in the purchase price of each article could be made to result in an increase in national prosperity worth dollars to all of us.

Expensive foreign luxuries with tariff and interest included in the retail price can be duplicated in this country and can be marketed here economically if the American public will throw off its inferiority complex and realize that American ingenuity is the equal of that of any foreign country.

The American buying public must give to American industry that encouragement we have so long given to foreign competition. Buy American!

We can reestablish national prosperity if the wage earners of this country will pledge themselves and their families to demand American made goods. Buy American!

Shall we have a third major political party? If so what shall it be?

Farm-Labor has lacked the ability to put weight behind either state or national governments. Socialism has failed to make substantial gains and the Progressives, after mustering nearly enough strength to control our government, fell short of the mark and receded almost to the point of obscurity.

In our country today we have an element which if fused together in one common purpose could easily elect and control our government.

We refer to the veteran, his relatives and sympathizers. Nearly all the countries of Europe have at some time been controlled by military or militaristic governments. Many of the South American countries have experimented with military governments and the results have been far from successful.

For the past several months attacks from all directions have focused upon veterans of all classes. All fair-minded veterans will admit that the provisions of veterans' legislation have miscarried in thousands of cases.

Every community of any appreciable size has its veterans who have been classified with high percentages of physical disability and who apparently enjoy perfect health and who regularly work at their usual trades or professions and whose earning capacities have not suffered. On the other hand these same communities have veterans who actually are disabled but who for some reason have been unable to establish their claims.

Responsible organizations working toward corrections in veterans' administration differentiate between meritorious and unjust claims but the irresponsible individual places all veterans in one class.

As yet the greater percentage of veterans are unorganized; the others are divided among several organizations having only a theoretical unity of purpose but surely we of organized labor should realize the power of organization and we must realize that if

the anti-veteran movement reaches the stage of persecution, this country will have a third major political party and the military party will control our government and dictate our policies. Buy American!

SAUVAN.

L. U. NO. 784, INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

Editor:

Christmas will be here and past in a short while with its cheer for some; misery and sadness for many others. New Year resolutions to be made that are soon forgotten.

Behind the dark clouds of depression there are a few remaining rays of sunshine. It is hoped that these "rays" will bring forth a "Moses" who will lead forth into the promised land of "better times."

W. C. Teagle, president of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, has, during the past two months, been making an extensive tour of the industrial centers for the purpose of selling the "share-the-work movement" to the leaders of industries in these localities. Mr. Teagle, during his recent visit to our fair city of Cincinnati, while talking on the English "dole", stated, "Many who have been receiving the dole are not unfit to work, but would not work if they had it." (Now I wonder.) When asked the number who have been reemployed through the share-the-work plan, Mr. Teagle confessed he had no such figures at hand. Although the Standard Oil dividends have fallen from the heights reached in 1925 of \$286,000,000 to \$181,000,000, little consideration has been given to the amount of good that could be accomplished by dividing 80 per cent of this 1932 melon amongst the men who have been furloughed by the Standard Oil Company during the past two years. Based on a five-dollar-a-day wage for 260 days per year this would mean the reemployment of 110,700 employees. Aside from the amount of good that would accrue to the former employees of the Standard Oil Company it would set an example for the leaders of other industries to follow.

Mr. Teagle's plan has some merit, but with due respect, courtesy and consideration for it, I personally believe it is very plain to be seen his idea is "The poor support the poor for an indefinite period."

Apparently all other ideas have failed miserably. Why not try the five-day week, six hours per day, to revive business and start the wheels of industry toward the goal of our desires? "Better times in the near future."

HARRY ANSON.

L. U. NO. 1037, WINNIPEG, CAN.

Editor:

I missed a letter in the Christmas number of the JOURNAL, but as nobody noticed it, anyway, there was no harm done. Well, another year has passed and gone and we are all looking forward to something a little better in 1933. The daily papers tell us that Washington, D. C., has received another cargo of gold from Great Britain in part payment of the war debts. (I hope, Brother Ed, that you got some of it seeing it came to your home town.) It doesn't seem to make very much difference to us who owns the gold of the world. We don't seem to get very much of it. The great powers all seem to be breaking their necks to get their paws on all the available supply and they seem to be like the man who got the bear by the tail. They don't seem to know what to do with it and they dare not let go. Well, I say, let them keep their gold. Us poor plugs who have to work for

it never got much more than a bare living, anyway, in good times, or bad, so what's the use of worrying about who has it?

I hear they got the sleet storm cleaned up till spring and following a very cold November and the most of December. Although we have snow the weather has been nice and mild the last two weeks. This is written on Christmas Day. We all have enough to eat, able to keep from freezing, and get an odd drink of suds. Brother McBride, our business agent, is getting fatter than ever and Harry Jackson is just a little bit thinner. Tim Sullivan says the winters are getting milder but his nose is still red in the cold weather. I hope you all had a Merry Christmas, and a little cheer at New Years down in our head office and Roosevelt and Eddie Cantor are going to give you all some beer next March, south of the line. Well, here's hoping it is more than 2 per cent and that the year 1933 won't be any worse than 1932.

So long.

IRVINE.

L. U. NO. 1118, QUEBEC CITY, CAN.

Editor:

Another bleak month has passed by, and every member of this local union is still keeping as cheerful as possible despite the very cold weather that we are getting just now.

Things are now running smoother in the local again, and a bigger and better interest is being taken by the members, which, after all is said and done, is only just as it should be for the benefit of all concerned.

Recently a company opened up a small plant in this city for the manufacture of fertilizer, and Brother A. Lyons was fortunate enough to walk into the job of boss electrician on the plant. Well, we all wish you good luck, Bert, and hope that you won't forget the boys if any openings occur in the future.

This month's regular meeting was only fairly attended by our members, yet it was an improvement over the previous few months, but don't forget, Brothers, we want you all there. Brother Vachon needs all the support he can get.

Another year is almost behind us, and we will soon be welcoming a New Year which we hope will be one of better times and greater prosperity for us all.

You know, boys, there is an old saying, that says, "Laugh and grow wealthy." Well, I hope that saying will have a true meaning in 1933.

The dark cloud of depression is still hovering around this old city, but a general spirit of optimism prevails, especially amongst our members. Brother A. Lyons struck a good job a few weeks ago, and then he got Brother Timmons started at the same place. Well, it sure made it a better Christmas for both, and we hope it will continue for them both.

I notice that some of our members are turning up better for our meetings. Well, boys, it is only once a month we get the chance to be all together, so come on now, and instead of only some coming, let us all be there.

For the benefit of our railroad members. I want to say that we hope to have a copy of the Duff Railway Commission report for our next meeting. Surely that should interest you boys.

Well, here's wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

Bonne annee.

W. F. UWINS.

A brilliant daughter makes a brittle wife.

L. U. NO. 1154, SANTA MONICA, CALIF.

Editor:

The political battle is all over and it looks, from a rough observation, that organized labor is quite well contented with the results. Prosperity is still around the corner but who the h— can see around the corner? Possibly after the doubtful pondering, after the political situation is over and settled, the captains of industry will set their sails and strike out on a straight course to a conservative and a constructive method again. Possibly the country can normalize itself again although 'tis true that there is lots of room for an unlimited amount of readjustment to take place. It seems that the first step is in adjusting the days per week and hours per day and still maintain a standard day's wage. The perfection of the machine has opened the pathways for this. The only barrier in the way now is to impose on the mill owner with his most excessive profits to be more liberally distributed among the employees. The worker can not exist on the short hours with the pay in accordance, but give him the buying power with his short hours and the manufacturer will get it back two-fold. Past experience has proved that the healthy buying power of our workers creates a wave of prosperity in all existing lines of business.

Survey all the small towns, hamlets and cities and observe all the vacant homes, large and small, and most of them were occupied by a humble and contented family, paying for their beloved little castle as they went along, praying to their Almighty that by the sweat of their brow and the brawn of their body they may toil on in peace and look for the day when the little place is their own. But look at them today: they stand vacant, plastered up with building and loan signs and their once proud possessors with their equity lost are tramping the streets and creating nothing but a patch job for a shoemaker. Where are the finance companies getting off at with all this paper lying dormant in their vaults? 'Tis these blood-sucking outfits that have helped to throw so much misery all over the country.

I know of one finance company that has 2,000 families on their lists calling for monthly payments and the regular interest rates. When the conditions got so bad they sent a bunch of investigators into the field and investigated their tenants' conditions and not one family have they evicted in the past 14 months. Instead of sitting in their swivel chairs and ruling with an iron hand they set up a relief department and created an employment department. They have helped over 1,000 families in regard to jobs and other relief and I dare say they are getting more revenue from their creditors than any other outfit I know of and when the time comes that the workers get to a normal phase of employment again that company will be farther ahead than all their competitors. It seems that their motto is that they help those who support them. If we had a little more co-operation of that kind throughout the country we would be a lot more prosperous people all around. But let a bunch of he-men workers get out and demand relief through an honest job or other ways and the first thing the capitalist hollers is, "Communism." If these brands of tactics are practiced among our own American citizens it seems that it is the brand that breeds communism in any man's soul. A conscientious man or father of a family is going to get relief and food for his loved

ones one way or the other and he can not be blamed.

One may read my lines and brand them as being favorable to the communist doctrine. Such is not the case. I am only referring to the smoke screens used by the "big boys" when it comes to a showdown with them and out they come with tear gas and a battalion of regulars.

It seems that average common sense and liberal thinking citizens have recorded their honest opinions at the last elections. What a cleaning of the old line machine!

And some of our prohibition leaders are losing their minds. I don't know whether in fear of losing their jobs or what, but the U. S. Treasury will hand out millions annually trying to enforce the most disregarded law known to humans, besides a big cut going to unknown sources not deserving or in plain words the crooked politicians, and eleven million people out of work or with no means of a livelihood in this glorious old U. S. A.

Since Local No. 1154's last letter to the WORKER, we have had the misfortune to lose two of our most worthy Brothers, Brother A. E. McLallen, who was a partner of the P. and M. Electric and Contracting Company; also, Brother Robert R. Shay, who was an active Brother and will be sadly missed by his Brother workers. Both boys were young men and accomplished workmen and have heeded the call of their Master. Our local pays respects to their sad departure and our charter hangs draped to their memory.

Well, four years have passed without a chicken in every pot, two cars in every garage. The chicken hopped out of the pot and ran around the corner looking for prosperity and got lost in the fracas and the finance companies took all the cars and then they put on a gas tax. I just wondered if they thought that everybody had time to get two cars when they slapped that on. Well, we had very nearly four years to get them in, anyhow! And as for the Democrats, wonder if they will give us another chicken and a cover for the pot?

When a Brother sits on the side lines and listens to the recording secretary read off the shop stewards' reports and of the small percentage of those employed, it rather makes one scratch his head and meditate, but I guess it is the same all over.

After having scanned the pages of the WORKER the past few months and noting the views taken by the different critics on the proposed steel homes to be fabricated in mass production and to be dumped on the markets, from all viewpoints taken regarding the merits of these so-called sardine can homes, so far, there seems to be a lot of details left out when it comes to the perfection of a modern home. Nevertheless, it looks like a slap in the face of the labor industry if the labor haters can ever put this crude piece of business over. The building industry has a fight on its hands and the time has arrived when all concerned should unite hand in hand to combat this pending piece of damaging promotion.

Well, the football season is all but over and our national champions of last season, the Trojans, or rather the University of Southern California, have carried away the Pacific Coast title again with no defeats and their goal line crossed twice during the season.

Local No. 1154 at this time can not report much progress, but the members in general are all keeping a stiff upper lip. For the information of all concerned of the Brotherhood in general, the Golden Gates of California are always open in welcome to everybody, but bear in mind that the electrical industry is at a standstill and not flourish-

ing as it should—not enough work at present to keep a third of the men at work. If sunshine is all you are seeking, come on and you will get your fill. The thermometer has been sliding from 75 to 89 over the past four weeks and we would welcome a little rain. It seems that other parts of the country are getting some rather crude weather. With this line off my chest, will pull the switch.

O. B. THOMAS.

Gulf Stream Warmth of Five Years Ago Now Chilling Swedes

How unusual warmth of the Gulf Stream in 1928 has controlled the weather of the last four years in Sweden and other parts of northern Europe and is still at work creating the present extreme cold in that neighborhood is explained by Dr. J. W. Sandström, head of the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrographical Institute, in a recent announcement at Stockholm. During the winter of 1928-1929, Dr. Sandström explains, the Gulf Stream supplied an unusual amount of warm ocean water to the region south of Iceland. This resulted in an area of low air pressure thereabouts, which acted, in turn, to draw cold air westward from northern Russia and to cause clear, cold weather in Sweden and Norway, creating some of the coldest weather ever recorded in Sweden. Gradually the Gulf Stream's warm water, driven by further supplies from behind, moved northward and eastward. During the summer of 1929 the presence of this oceanic warmth north of Iceland drew hot winds from southern Europe, so that Sweden had one of the warmest summers ever recorded. By the following summer, that of 1930, the warm Gulf Stream water had reached the edge of the Arctic ice so that there was much melting; resulting, for one thing, in the finding and recovery of the bodies of the Andree expedition, which had been buried for years under unmelted ice and snow. At present the unusually warm Gulf-Stream water, continuing its northeastward drift, is north of the Eurasian continent in the neighborhood of Spitzbergen and Franz Josef Land. Once more it is causing cold weather in Sweden and Norway, this time by winds from the west, which bring the climate of Greenland. The whole series of cold and warm seasons began, Dr. Sandström believes, with the unusual solar heat in the South Atlantic Ocean, five or six years ago. This warmed the Gulf Stream and started off toward northern Europe the millions of cubic miles of warm water which has been alternately chilling and roasting Sweden ever since.

People who believe in patriotism do not understand what patriotism is, or what it leads to. If they did, they would revise their definition of patriotism, or cease to be patriotic. As honest men and women, they would be compelled to do so because the kind of patriotism they believe in leads to war. Without such patriotism, there could not be war in Europe today.

Are we so ignorantly conceited that we believe we are better than Englishmen, Germans or Frenchmen? Certainly the people of each country cannot be better than the people of every other country. If the people of some country are better than the people of any other country, the people of every other country must be inferior. Yet what people regard themselves as inferiors? No people. Patriotism causes the people of each country to believe they are the best people in the world.—Allan Benson.

IN MEMORIAM

George J. Haglund, L. U. No. 354

Whereas Local Union No. 354 has been called upon to pay its last respects to a departed Brother, George J. Haglund; and

Whereas we greatly mourn his sudden and untimely passing and desire to express to his family our utmost sympathy; therefore be it

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days, and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of our departed Brother, a copy be sent to our official Journal for publication, and a copy be spread on the minutes of this local.

J. H. IVERSON,
JAMES PEFFERS,
F. E. WEIDNER,
Committee.

Roy B. Canada, L. U. No. 574

Whereas we, the members of Local Union No. 574, I. B. E. W., are greatly grieved over the sudden loss of our esteemed Brother and fellow worker, Roy B. Canada, and in his untimely passing we have lost a staunch supporter and a willing worker in the organized labor movement; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of this local union extend our greatest sympathy to his bereaved wife, and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his bereaved family, a copy be spread upon the minutes of our meeting, and a copy be published in our official Journal.

C. E. BALES,
C. S. OAKLEY,
ALTON E. BUNKER,
Committee.

Henry C. Folsom, L. U. No. 332

Whereas the Almighty God in His infinite wisdom, has seen fit to remove from this earth our beloved Brother, Henry C. Folsom, and it is with deep sorrow we mourn the loss of this Brother; therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of Local Union No. 332, I. B. E. W., extend to the family of our late Brother, our heartfelt sympathy and condolence in this their hour of sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in memory of our Brother, also a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the family, and also a copy be spread on our minutes and a copy be sent to the official Journal for publication.

E. H. SNEDAKER,
A. F. SPENCER,
E. RICKENBACH,
Committee on Resolutions.

The above resolutions were adopted at the regular meeting of Local No. 332, I. B. E. W., on Tuesday evening, December 6, 1932.

A. P. BAYLE, President.
L. A. PAUL, Recording Secretary.

James W. Masters, Local Union No. 65

Whereas the Almighty God has seen it best to remove from our midst our beloved Brother, James W. Masters; and

Whereas in the passing of Brother Masters, Local Union No. 65, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, mourns the loss of a true and loyal member; therefore be it

Resolved, That in this hour of sorrow and sadness of his sister and relatives, we extend our sincere sympathy and condolence, and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of Local Union No. 65 be draped for a period of 30 days in the memory of our late Brother, James W. Masters, and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent the sister of our late Brother, a copy spread on the minutes of Local Union No. 65 and a copy sent our official Journal for publication.

C. G. JOHNSON,
E. K. DUNCAN,
WILLIAM CROTTY,
Committee.

Andrew Boat, L. U. No. 536

Whereas It has been the will of the Almighty God to take from us our worthy Brother, Andrew Boat, a good union man and always ready to help a needy Brother.

Whereas in his passing we deeply feel our loss of a true and loyal member; therefore be it

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread on our minutes, a copy be sent to our official Journal for publication and that our charter be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days.

JOHN McLAUGHLIN,
Financial Secretary.

B. A. Emerton, L. U. No. 50

It is with deep sorrow and regret that Local Union No. 50, I. B. E. W., records the sudden passing of our Brother, B. A. Emerton; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, as a union, pay tribute to his memory by expressing to his family our sincere sympathy, and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his family, a copy be spread upon our minutes, and a copy be sent to the Electrical Workers Journal for publication; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of this local union be draped for a period of 30 days.

GEO. WAGNER,
GLEN LEWIS,
W. F. BALLEW,
Committee.

R. N. Farren, L. U. No. 716

Whereas Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, has removed from our midst our devoted Brother, R. N. Farren; therefore be it

Resolved, That in this hour of their sorrow we extend to his bereaved family our sincere sympathy and condolence; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be written into the records of the local union, copies be sent to the relatives and a copy forwarded to our official Journal for publication, and our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in respect to his memory.

FRED A. GOODSON,
G. E. WOOD,
DON KENARD,
C. L. BYRAM,
Committee.

Henry McCann Haynes, L. U. No. 501

Whereas in the sudden death of Brother Henry McCann Haynes, Local Union No. 501 has lost a true and loyal member; be it

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the official Journal for publication; and be it further

Resolved, That we, the members of Local Union No. 501, being lawfully assembled stand in silence for one minute in further tribute to his memory.

JOHN W. RATCLIFF,
Press Secretary.

Luen Coffee, L. U. No. 100

Whereas it is with deep regret that the members of Local Union No. 100 mourn the death of our Brother, Luen Coffee; and

Whereas this sad occasion deprives us of a faithful friend and Brother; therefore be it

Resolved, That Local Union No. 100 extend our deepest sympathy to the bereaved family and be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter for a period of 30 days and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family, a copy spread upon the minutes of our organization and a copy be published in our official Journal.

THOMAS M. CATICH,
E. C. BRYAN,
L. H. HADDIX,
Committee.

DEATH CLAIMS PAID DECEMBER 1 TO 31, 1932

No.	Name	Amount
224	A. F. Gleason.....	\$1,000.00
58	M. J. Murphy.....	1,000.00
57	Robt. Stevenson.....	1,000.00
136	W. R. Lee.....	1,000.00
3	M. R. Maxwell.....	1,000.00
50	B. A. Emerton.....	1,000.00
14	Jos. G. S. Krotzer.....	1,000.00
656	W. E. McEntire.....	300.00
1	B. P. Carter.....	1,000.00
716	R. N. Farren.....	1,000.00
134	Wm. J. Bricknell.....	1,000.00
134	Chas. G. Selle.....	1,000.00
134	Conrad Listner.....	1,000.00
817	John T. Nelson, Jr.....	1,000.00
I. O.	Jos. John Gaug.....	1,000.00
136	W. H. Crump.....	1,000.00
I. O.	Henry C. Folsom.....	1,000.00
536	A. Boal.....	1,000.00
I. O.	R. E. Conklin.....	825.00
309	J. A. Ohlendorf.....	1,000.00
3	Jacob Krisky.....	1,000.00
38	Alex Henderson.....	1,000.00
354	Geo. Haglund.....	1,000.00
I. O.	J. F. Bassett.....	1,000.00
6	R. D. Bennett.....	1,000.00
65	J. W. Masters.....	1,000.00
134	Gus Miller.....	1,000.00
514	R. J. Collins.....	1,000.00

Claims paid December 1 to December 31, 1932.....\$27,125.00
Claims previously paid.....2,849,127.76

Total claims paid.....\$2,876,252.76

Thousands of channels there are through which the beauty of our soul may sail even unto our thoughts. Above all is there the wonderful, central channel of love. For is it not in love that are found the purest elements of beauty that we can offer to the soul? Some there are who do thus in beauty love each other. And to love thus means that, little by little, the sense of ugliness is lost; that one's eyes are closed to all the littlenesses of life, to all but the freshness and virginity of the very humblest of souls.

Loving thus, we can no longer have anything to conceal, for that the ever-present soul transforms all things into beauty. It is to behold evil in so far only as it purifies indulgence, and teaches us no longer to confound the sinner with the sin.

Loving thus do we raise on high within ourselves all those about us who have attained an eminence where failure has become impossible: heights whence a paltry action has so far to fall that, touching earth, it is compelled to yield up its diamond soul. It is to transform, though all unconsciously, the feeblest intention that hovers about us into illimitable movement. It is to summon all that is beautiful in earth, Heaven or soul, to the banquet of love. It means that the least gesture will call forth the presence of the soul with all its treasure. It means that the beauty that turns into love is undistinguishable from the love that turns into beauty. It means to be able no longer to tell where the ray of a star leaves off and the kiss of an ordinary thought begins. It means that each day will reveal to us a new beauty in that mysterious angel, and that we shall walk together in a goodness that shall ever become more and more living, loftier and loftier.—Masterlinck.

Better a little fire to warm us than a great fire to burn us.

A. F. OF L.—FORUM OF SOCIAL IDEAS

(Continued from page 17)

"The machine, if controlled by vocational groups, under legal enactments, can and should shorten the working hours of the laborer. It can and should reduce the working week to five days, and even a shorter period if a proper balance can not be established between production and consumption. This does not mean, however, that the wage of the worker should be reduced proportionately. He must still be given a family wage. If this change should be effected, as it must be eventually, the Catholic Church can think with satisfaction of the period when her yearly program obliged her children to observe practically two days of each week as feast days or holy days. Before the Napoleonic wars the church had, in the course of the year, 48 holidays of obligation, when servile work was forbidden. The Concordat with Napoleon, which was forced upon Pope Pius VI and Pope Pius VII, reduced the number of feast days to six. It is true that these were set aside first for the worship of God; but they also had a great social value, offering opportunity for the relaxing of man's spirit, for rest, and for the strengthening of home life. Leisure days of the week, instead of being detrimental, are beneficial to body, mind and soul. This is much better than having periods of excessive production, alternating with long periods of unemployment. For as Pope Pius XI reminds us, 'Unemployment, if widespread and of long duration, is a dreadful scourge; it causes misery and temptation to the laborer, it ruins the prosperity of nations and endangers public order, peace and the tranquillity of the world.'

"I am sure it is not necessary for me to say that I have uttered no word with the thought of stirring up strife or of carrying class against class. My only thought has been to speak a word in the cause of justice. I am sure we all realize that in this moment, when we are hoping for the dawn of a better day, and when every man who has the love of his brother man in his heart is deeply concerned about the unemployed millions and the untold suffering of the destitute, patience, good will, sane judgment, a great sense of justice, charity that knows no bounds, and a willingness to deal with actual conditions must characterize us. While we demand a new order in which there will be the square deal of justice, supported by charity, we must not forget that the present moment is one of transition—we hope to better things. A common endeavor on the part of all groups is necessary. Let there be the full light of publicity on all movements tending toward the restoration of the social order, that they may receive the keenest analysis of public-spirited citizens.

"I pray that God may guide your deliberations, that you may with confidence in Divine Providence formulate principles which cannot justly be rejected."

Technocracy and Labor

By SPENCER MILLER, Secretary,
Workers' Education Bureau

"For the past 7,000 years of man's social history the work of the world was done by manual labor with no appreciable change in method of doing work save as man utilized wind and waterpower. The average man was capable of an output of 1/10 horsepower per eight hours. The maximum output in ancient Egypt, for example, was 150,000

horsepower per eight-hour day, on a basis of a maximum population of 5,000,000. Up to the advent of the industrial revolution output was not substantially different from the days of the Pharaohs. But with the coming of the steam engine, we witnessed the advent of a revolution in our industrial life which has literally transformed the globe; it marks an epoch as definitely as does the stone age or the bronze age. Within the past 100 years the original output of the human machine has increased 9,000,000 times, expressed in modern energy conversion units.

"If the conclusions and forecasts of technocracy are true, it will be necessary, in my judgment, to radically recast the policy and program of labor. It will be necessary indeed to revise our whole concept of governmental control in this land. And I am informed by several of our leading engineers in this country and the factual material on which technocracy has formulated its report are sound, though there is a difference of opinion as to their theories and proposals as to what should be done. Whatever may be one's judgment as to the next steps, the fact does remain that the report of technocracy is of the utmost importance and constitutes a challenge so sweeping and overwhelmingly both to labor and education, that it will be impossible for us to ignore it.

"With the advent of technology there has been as well an extraordinary expansion of human consumption. In the days of the Egyptian and Mediterranean civilizations and during the middle ages, the extreme upper limits of consumption were 2,000 calories per person each day. Today in North America 'we have reached an energy consumption of 150,000 calories per capita per day.'

"That we have been swept along by a tide the force of which we have been unable either to measure or direct, technocracy has pointed out that our maximum period of work absorption came in 1918-19. Since then the decline in work opportunities has been steady. Wherever mechanization has taken place in a major industry, employment tends to become an inverse function of the rate of the total output. They point out, for example, that in the iron and steel industry with the same total employment in 1929 as in 1887 the output was 9.3, that of 32 years ago. The radio industry, which began in 1920 and took up much of the slack in the depression of 1921-22, reached its maximum employment in 1925, but it did not reach maximum output of 8,000,000 sets a year until four years later. In a sheet steel rolling mill in the mid-west, there is a new machine, 2,100 feet long, operated by push buttons, which does all the work of the mill. A factory which manufactures automobile frames produces 10,000 such chassis each day and requires only 208 workers, thus displacing thousands of workers."

Greed, Bankers and Labor

By CHARLES DUKES, British Fraternal
Delegate from British Trade
Union Congress

"Greed, the hunger for profit, the desire for big dividends lies at the root of this world catastrophe and no sophism will get us out of that difficulty; it must be faced. We stand, Mr. President, in a position of responsibility. We are regarded as leaders and we must lead, we must not be pushed from behind. That is our function; it is our responsibility. * * *

"The power of finance expressed itself,

and that power will always express itself when you reach the core of a great crisis of that character. But that power will be dealt with. The day has come to say that those who handle the social credit of the nation shall no longer be its dictators! It must become the servant of the state. We will no longer tolerate the divine right of finance any more than our forefathers tolerated the divine right of kings.

"They failed to protect the gold standard. The very forces which conspired to our defeat proclaimed the righteousness of abandoning the gold standard within a few weeks of having defeated us at the polls. What did they do in the field of the social services? Seventy-five million pounds were taken away from health, from education, from unemployment, 40,000,000 pounds of that taken from the unemployed workmen. In the course of a few short weeks 200,000 had been struck off the register, and thousands of them compelled to resort to poor law relief. That is the picture of the struggles, my friends. Not in a country unable to feed its people. Our returns from England's revenue reveals where the money goes. The complaint of high taxes is an artificial scare. We have got to know what they mean by high taxation. If we are called upon to decide between taking 40,000,000 pounds from the unemployed, or imposing further economies upon the wealthy, we would decide upon the latter course. Our military and our naval budgets afford every opportunity for further economies.

This is the 14th year from the war to end war, and the leading nations of the world are spending 900,000,000 pounds a year. For what? For another war. Those of us who lived in the years immediately preceding the last war can see a fatal comparison. I beg of you men to understand this: A generation has come to manhood who knew nothing of the horrors of war. If our day cannot solve that problem, we will hand on to them the heritage that our fathers handed on to us. We are running a fatal race with time. The day has gone for fine words. The day has come to act, and if we believe in a world disarmed, a world of peace, it can only arise from a world in which economic conflict is no longer permitted to obtain. We can not have a world of peace, a superstructure of brotherhood built upon your narrow nationalism, your economic conflicts in which a nation supposed to be at peace continues in economic rivalry. Our vision has got to be wider than that. We have got to give practical effect to our ideas of brotherhood. We have got to recognize the rights of people throughout the world to live as they wish, to live without any intervention from the powerful.

"In England today we have 300,000 miners unemployed, redundant, not merely unemployed, redundant, and there are thousands of homes in which coal has become a luxury. We have 225,000 members of the building trades unemployed and 9,000,000 of our people are living in overcrowded conditions. We have thousands of our textile workers unemployed, thousands of our boot makers out of work, in a nation that is underclothed and badly shod. What is the reply of capitalism to that? Let us know it. It has no reply; there is no reply. * * *

"Man is a social and a political animal. We believe the day has gone when labor can remain quiescent, begging here of a friend and asking for a favor of another one. A new condition has arisen, labor is entering into its might, and labor will control the world in the future, not in a narrow sense of that word, but when they have emancipated workers where they will no longer be the class that needs to be emancipated."

Oneness of Labor's Aims

By J. A. FRANKLIN and E. E. MILLI-MAN, American Fraternal Delegates to British Trade Union Congress

"Our visit to the International Labor Office in Geneva stands out. This labor office, both in its magnificent and appropriate new home, and in the range of service of its activities is most notable. To any American trade unionists it is a source of pride to realize the part which the late leader of the American Federation of Labor, Samuel Gompers, had in the establishment of this organization, as an autonomous part of the League of Nations. The room in this labor office, which has been fitted out by American trade unionists in memory of Mr. Gompers, is most appropriate. It is a matter of genuine regret, that both the American government and American labor do not have membership in this important organization. Until such time as our government is a member, it does seem to us both wise and proper that the American government should have an unofficial observer at the labor office, to interpret the industrial and labor conditions in our country to this important international center.

"We are convinced that there are no essential differences in the issues confronting the workers of Europe, Britain and the United States. Their problems are similar with ours—the workers of the world are the victims of the machine age. It is a matter of consumption rather than production. The workers everywhere are intensely alive to the fact that there is only one solution and that is in a sharp reduction in working time without loss in wages; in fact, wages must be increased. Without this, there can be no increase in actual having power. There is no other way out. The working class the world over must be placed in a position where they can consume a proper proportion of the things they produce. It is true that wages are low on the other side, but this is not so when all factors are given consideration, especially when we measure wages by production. It can not be gainsaid that the American worker produces more than any other worker on the face of the earth. It has been proved time and time again that although it may appear that the American worker receives wages that are excessive compared to those of workers in other parts of the world, as a matter of fact, he actually receives less from the standpoint of his production."

How Bankers Work

By JOHN P. FREY, Secretary, Metal Trades Department

"My attention to the part that the banker plays in dominating industrial policies came through a conference or a dinner that I had with a banker whose name is unnecessary for my purpose. At one time he had been the receiver of a very large foundry. I had gone to him to secure a settlement for my own trade. I had not succeeded. I found him one of the most hard-boiled men to talk to that I ever interviewed. But just before I met him on this last occasion he had taken a very deep interest in the question of wages and was supporting the position of the American Federation of Labor adopted at our Atlantic City Convention in 1925, which was to the effect that

industry and commerce must suffer unless the real wage, the purchasing power of wages kept pace with industry's increased capacity to support it. And when he told me he approved of that declaration of the Atlantic City convention I asked him how a hard-boiled banker, such as he had been, could take that position. He said, 'Frey, I have learned from experience. I am a mechanical engineer by profession as well as a banker. I became an engineer first. A banking corporation, a private bank of which I am a partner, developed the business of loaning to large corporations, the minimum loan being \$500,000, and when a corporation desired a loan I was sent as the engineer of my banking company to make a physical examination of the plant and study the company's business, the company's markets, and then when we made the loan it was understood that I had to go on the board of directors and remain on that board until the company had repaid the principal and the interest. Finally I found that I was a member of the board of directors of 27 manufacturing corporations, several of them the largest of their kind in the United States, some of them in competition with each other. We had made a loan of \$20,000,000 to one corporation, and to secure that loan the corporation had been compelled to make me president, and I began to wonder how these corporations would ever secure the money to pay back the loans we had made to them. The more I studied that problem the more I studied the home market and the foreign market, the more I became convinced that as the banker was carrying on business he was committing suicide and leading the corporations along with him.'

"That was why this man, from his experience as a director of many corporations, representing his own bank, had come to the conclusion that the bankers should have some sound understanding at least of the industrial problem in this country.

"Just one more word about how the bankers work, because it is all important that we should understand it, that the business men should understand it, that the public should understand it as well. In the late fall of 1930 two well-known bankers declared that unless wages were reduced there could be no recovery from the depression. They took a position which was in direct conflict with that of the agreement reached in the White House in November, 1929, when the representatives of the big industries of our country and the representatives of the American Federation of Labor agreed that wages must be maintained, because if the consuming power of the country was destroyed business would be injured still more.

"The first note of discrimination with that position came from the banks, and the first one who spoke was Mr. Wiggins, chairman of the board of directors of the Chase National Bank, a gentleman whose connections I will bring before you very shortly. And supporting him was Mr. Stevenson, the president of the American Bankers' Association. Some of us may have believed that when these bankers spoke they were expressing their personal opinions for the purpose of influencing the public to a policy they felt was sound. In reality, before they had made that statement and afterwards, they were compelling the corporations whose credit they supplied to fall in line with their program for industrial recovery.

"One more illustration to show how they work—and you notice I am not mentioning names just now, because some of these business men who were sandbagged would not care to have it advertised. But one of the largest publishing houses in this country, a publishing house with some 25 or 26 weekly

and monthly magazines devoted exclusively to commerce and industry, had very ardently supported the White House program in November, 1929, and after Mr. Wiggins had informed the public that wages must be reduced, after Mr. Stevenson, the president of the American Bankers' Association, had endorsed that position, this one publishing house continued to support the position that any reduction in wages was fatal to commerce and to industry, that if anything was necessary to bring about recovery it was to increase rather than diminish the consuming capacity of the American people.

"Early in 1931, some three months after Mr. Wiggins had made his first public statement, he sent for the economist of this great publishing house and asked him in a most brusque manner what he and his publications meant by continuing to advocate no reductions in wages after the bankers had said a reduction in wages must come, and he wound up his interview with this representative, who is also the economist of this great publishing house, by saying, 'All of your publications depend upon advertising. If you think you can get advertising and run counter to our program, go ahead.' And so the next issue of that publishing house's publications said nothing at all about wages and has not discussed the matter since, because they knew that if the great commercial banks said, 'You are going counter to our program,' it would mean that their publishing business would immediately dry up.

"I have in this list 16 of the leading private bankers, with their offices in New York, and I find that these 16 bankers hold directorships in 70 of the largest commercial banks of New York and immediate vicinity, and that in addition to having this control over the commercial bank through the directors who sit on them, they also hold 1,065 directorships in aviation, public utilities, railroad and other transportation, manufacturing, commercial and other corporations. So that directly the representatives of the 16 private banks sit on the board of directors of the leading commercial banks of New York City and on the board of directors of our largest corporations. * * *

"I find by going through the directorships held by the partners in these private banks that most of them tie up with the Chase National Bank, so that when the Chase National Bank speaks on an industrial problem it is the private banker as well as the Chase National Bank that is speaking, but these partners do not care to do the errand-boy work; they are too important in the banking industry and in their own estimation to do that. They use the directors of the large commercial banks to do that.

"Taking a list of eight of the largest commercial banks in New York City, we find that the directors of those eight banks hold 3,741 directorships in public utility, aviation, railroad manufacturing, steamship and commercial corporations. So that when these eight banks on whose boards of directors the private bankers sit desire to carry out any policy they immediately have a directorship of 3,741 American corporations to see that it is enforced."

PREDICTS NATIONAL INTERLOCKING POLICE RADIO

(Continued from page 9)

radio brethren of L. U. No. 1, St. Louis, Brother Bill Ludgate, chairman of Radio Division, and Brother Bill Keller, press secretary. "Progress" is their motto.

The radio men in your local police

department will be glad to read these articles and now is the time to interest yourself in bringing them under the wing of our organization. Bring them in first, then educate them. Many political changes are taking place throughout the country, a new administration is taking hold soon and it would seem an ideal time to organize these men.

Let your organized police radio men be a nucleus in your locality for a higher and better national group. This work belongs to us. Go after it now!

The radio service man who calls on the radio owner at his home is at present a remarkably unstable individual and in most localities unsuitable for organization but these radio men attached to police radio systems show signs of settling down to business. Then, again, every local union has its younger element many of whom show encouraging adaptability and enterprise along radio servicing lines. Here is work for them. In many cities I have found that radio service work on receivers already installed in cars was done by lads of high school age and in a very haphazard manner. Many cars were out of service because of sloppy installation and consequent recurrent troubles. Now we have within our organization men who take pride in their work and their services would pay in the long run.

Mr. Business Manager, please delegate some painstaking member of your local to see what can be done towards bringing these radio operators and radio service men in touch with you. Educate them, get recognition for them, do what you can for them. If you succeed you will find the radio operators employed in neighboring broadcasting stations will follow right along and with the radio industry organized our great Brotherhood will be on the threshold of one of the greatest steps of its career.

WORKER DESCRIBES RAVAGES OF UNEMPLOYMENT

(Continued from page 8)

he learns to bum and panhandle like an expert. This is particularly noticeable in the younger element, but it does not stop there, as the police blotters of any large city will testify.

As regards the unemployed women, case records of social service bureaus reveal terrible stories. As the number of unemployed women is running into the millions, one wonders what the coming generation is going to be in the matters of stability and conduct.

Social workers are greatly concerned over the large proportion of young men and women without employment and drifting aimlessly in bewilderment and despair. Investigations have proven that youth does not endure involuntary idleness long before he slips into courses leading into criminality on the one hand and trampdom on the other. It is quite obvious that there is a gradual breaking down of stability and character which is reflected in the loss of ambition

and initiative in mental and manual work. In this connection, Ernest Poole comments upon this breakdown in morale in a very interesting letter contributed to the New York Times (April 4, 1932). Referring to public and private relief agencies, he says:

"But there is something ominous here. For, as men lose familiar jobs and drop into this vast charity mill, a change takes place in their outlook—a change that was described to me by a man long familiar with such work.

"In most big depressions," he said, "a man or boy thrown out of work goes through three stages: On losing his job he is scared at first and tries to get another. He fails and so comes the second stage, when he grows bitter and rebellious. But, in most cases, he passes through that to a third and final stage of absolute indifference, when he no longer wants a job because he has learned to beat the game as a bum or a petty criminal. And the most ominous thing in this present depression is that they are reaching this stage so soon. They don't stay long in the bitter stage. We know, because we're watching closely, and we find few recruits to the Communists or to other radical movements from the ranks of the unemployed. They are coming quickly to the third stage, the hopeless stage—the stage that manufactures bums, hoboos and criminals for our future national life."

Taking this statement as it is, one must necessarily be impressed by the situation. There is one passage, however, wherein the social worker conveys but a half-truth when he asserts that radicalism does not, to any great extent, filter into the ranks of the unemployed. Perhaps in justice to him I ought to say that only a small percentage are really intelligent enough to hold advanced ideas, but as the depression continues and the contrast between the down-and-outer and the parasitic rich becomes fully understood, commonsense alone should tell us that the radical movements will gain many new recruits from the ranks of the unemployed.

Perhaps it may be said—and with some truth—that, with few exceptions, the jobless soon lose their mental grip; this means that their minds become unbalanced and they are tossed to and fro upon the straws of chance. I do know, however, that the tendency to escape their miseries is not to think about them and, before long, to cover themselves with a blanket of almost impenetrable apathy. This may seem to be an exaggeration but a moment's attention given to the fringe of any radical meeting will show this to be largely true. On the other hand, it is known that recent radical disorders were not primarily the result of Communistic appeal so much as the rise of groups of the unemployed themselves who, with enforced leisure, have spent some time in trying to find an answer to the question: "Why unemployment?"

Within the past few months it has been noticed that a subtle change appears to be taking place inside of the

ranks. Does this change indicate that something must be done—and that united action must be pushed to the limit—or does it mean that the victims are suffering too much to be satisfied with political makeshifts?

In confirmation of this conjecture, a corroborative statement comes from an unexpected source. Dr. Sidney E. Goldstein, of New York, chairman of the executive committee of the Joint Committee for Unemployment Relief, told the Senate Manufacturers' Committee that "Despair leads quickly to a state of desperation and outbreak and explosions are nearer than our leaders realize. Those of us who are nearer to the working classes know that their temper is changing and that they will not suffer much longer without redress. No government can sow injustice without reaping a revolution."

Strong language, indeed, but those familiar with the situation in cities like New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Cleveland and Detroit know that he is not speaking foolishly.

There are several other important factors of which limited space will allow us only a glance. Turning back to the domestic situation arising when the head of a family is unable to provide food for his wife and children, it is found that separations and desertions are on the increase. Charity organizations and social service bureaus are alarmed at this breaking up of a cherished institution. The home families, especially the grown-ups, are being scattered to all the four quarters of the nation. In February of this year, the Welfare Council of New York City issued a report which is far from being pleasant reading. Outlining many of the consequences of unemployment, the report avers that, as a result of economic conditions during the past two years, "family affection has been sorely tried; conjugal and parental ties have been weakened; family groups have disintegrated; the source of income has shifted from the husband and father to the wife and children or to the public; parental authority has lost force; home discipline has suffered; personality difficulties and family problems have been precipitated; instability and insecurity have increased."

Prostitution, with its attendant evils has become such a menace that the police of several large cities have shut off information relative to its growth. Suicides have multiplied and actual cases of starvation have been covered up by medical reports of "heart disease."

The cumulative effect of the depression will leave its mark on the children. Diseases arising from malnutrition are causing great anxieties to all those interested in child welfare. Medical men declare that the children of the jobless are much undernourished, and consequently they will suffer physical ailments and disabilities for many years to come. Taken all in all, the prospects for a healthy and contented America have gone a glimmering, and we can only patiently hope that something will be left upon which to build anew.

HOUSES, LIKE CARS, SHOW SUBSTANTIAL TREND

(Continued from page 5)

first floor and stucco, half timber and rough boards in the gables, while the third model is colonial with frame construction. The floor plan for each of these houses is the same and the cubage of each house is 18,000 cubic feet, and the overall dimensions are 24 by 28 feet."

Cubage Furnishes True Measure

That this is real competition for the prospective metal house is shown by comparing the \$5,000 brick house cubage, 18,000 cubic feet, with the \$3,500 metal house cubage of an estimated 7,440 cubic feet.

As a matter of fact, the metal house promoters themselves admit that they cannot compete. In an article in *Nation's Business* for December, Paul H. Hayward says that "of 60 systems of steel framed and all-steel construction thus far evolved, *one or two claim to have hurdled this cost obstacle successfully.*" (Italics ours.)

In the November JOURNAL we set down, with the help of a construction expert, the features which should be included in a thoroughly modern, well-constructed house, the kind of a house the wage-earner buyer deserves and should insist on because it will always be a good investment as well as a comfortable home. These specifications should not be cheapened. The kind of a house we described can be built for a \$4,000 to \$5,000 price. The secret is in the designing.

Making the house fit the pocketbook is a matter for the designer. After the plan has been drawn and accepted by the customer there is not much the contractor can do to cut the cost without very greatly cheapening and weakening the house. Peddling bids, chiseling labor, and similar practices can save only a small percentage of the cost, and may result in serious damage to the structure if inferior craftsmen are employed.

To result in a really economical plan, eliminations must be made before the house even achieves the blue print form. Because most small house owners do not employ individual architects but use plans made by architects' associations and adapted by local men, it is most important that the designers who make up these associations, such as the Small House Service Bureau, should now be actively studying a new technique of planning for an economy market.

Even the \$5,000 figure, though it represents a great value in the house described, should be cut down if possible. If a complete, modern, good quality house can be built for \$4,000 it will lead the coming market.

What Wage-Earners Need

The wage earner does not really want or need a full basement. The cost of excavating and building basement walls and floor is approximately 9 to 10 per cent of the cost of the low-priced house. It is possible to have a perfectly satisfac-

tory heating system with a small boiler room placed only two feet lower than the main floor of the house. The basement can be eliminated, unless it is necessary to the plan of the house for laundry, work shop, amusement room, and other living and working quarters. And if the basement is to be used it must be designed for spacious headroom, concealed heating pipes, good lighting, and other conveniences, while the plan is being drawn. Once the house has been built it is hard and expensive to make changes — sometimes impossible. The basement should either be put to the fullest and most practical use, or stricken from the plan.

Economy in both labor and material may be achieved in plain simple exteriors—eliminating bay windows, unnecessary porches, wings, jogs, unnecessary gables and elaborate roof framing. The plain rectangular house with an A roof may be beautiful in its simplicity; it is certainly less expensive to build than the same house with complexities of wall and roof.

Attics are frequently, like full basements, wasted space. You cannot eliminate this space under the roof, but you can make it useful. In fact, by intelligent planning, you can use the attic for two bedrooms and bath, replacing the usual second story (or a large part of the first story, in bungalow types) resulting in a very large saving. Raising the ridge pole and plate to provide sufficient headroom, providing enough windows for good ventilation, installing blanket insulation under the roof, will make the half-story livable and useful. By making cupboards under the eaves a good deal of valuable storage space can be provided.

Increasing the length of rafters in the average house, with the accompanying structural changes, does not add more than 1 or 2 per cent to the total cost of the finished job, and can easily add \$1,000 to the resale value—and also add two first class bedrooms. Such changes, of course, must be carefully considered by the designer before the plans are drawn. New insulating materials on the market have removed the fear of stifling nights in hot rooms. This same insulation will keep the attic cosy and warm in cold weather and will save on heating costs for the rest of the house.

Intelligence in small house planning lies not in making the rooms small or few in number, but in avoiding waste. Hallways can be practically eliminated or cut down to the small entrance hall with coat closet, which serves a double purpose.

Modern life has made the dining room a question of individual taste. It is one of the less important rooms. Whether it is to be a nook in the kitchen or a small room adjoining the kitchen is really a question of the taste and habits of the owners of the house. But to have both the nook and the dining room is wasting space, and should be avoided unless the owners are willing to pay an extra cost. Perhaps the solution which will please most people is the small din-

ing room opening directly from the kitchen where all meals may be served.

The individual floor plan, like the individual house, must be adapted to the wishes and needs of the owners. What we have been trying to do in this article is to sketch in a few outlines of a house that will offer a maximum of useful space and the minimum of wasted space; that will include modern comforts in heating, plumbing and electricity at a low selling cost. To draw the plan of this house is the architect's business, not ours.

But we do want to draw the attention of the architect to the desires of the wage earner. He must study the needs of a class who cannot afford expensive upkeep, who must get the most space for their money, who employ no servants, who want room for children rather than for lavish entertaining. In short, wage-earners' houses must be planned for wage-earners, rather than being cheaper editions of the houses planned for business men, professional men, social lights, and members of the younger country club set.

LOS ANGELES MOVES FOR PUBLIC TELEPHONES

(Continued from page 6)

tion system of the Panama Canal Zone and thousands of others in various departments.

That the general public is not informed of the economic advantages to be gained by the installation of a publicly owned telephone system for municipal government use is readily understood when you consider that the chief factors who are instrumental in the formation of public opinion are the radio and the press, both of which are monopolized and controlled by special interest groups who thrive on the political ignorance of the people.

Private Monopolization Is Inimical to Public Welfare

We have progressed beyond the pork barrel stage of government, and now realize that the ultimate goal of municipal government is municipal ownership of public utilities; as long as the public is taxed to support the government, government is a financial failure. How long would stockholders support a corporation that paid no dividends? The idea of the cost of government mounting higher each year is preposterous.

The people should own the equipment inside their government buildings as well as the artistic outside shell; the walls of our public buildings should offer an impenetrable barrier to the tentacles of special interests who seek to pay excessive and unreasonable private dividends out of the public treasury.

This is sound political economy, and the only sure method of lowering the cost of government so that eventually it might even pay dividends to the taxpayer; no man should receive a majority vote of the people who is not willing to pledge himself to attain this end; to put

government on a paying basis is the paramount issue before the American people today.

Data on cost of equipment, installation, present rental charges and estimated saving will be published in an early issue of this JOURNAL.

HORSE DOCTORS CAN'T REPAIR MOTOR CARS

(Continued from page 10)

one-half of the union membership is found in industries of a semi-public nature. The workers in private industries are largely unorganized. But unlike the situation in the United States, unorganized French workers are class conscious. While they may not be active in trade unions, they can be found in the cooperative societies and in the socialist and communist political organizations.

The problem, therefore, writes Mr. Saposs, is not of getting the message of unionism to workers, but rather of getting the workers into stable dues-paying organizations. Until this is achieved French unionism will lack stability.

French workers have made many gains through legislation since the War. Strikes have either been lost or given up, but legislative efforts have won many battles. But contrary to impressions in America, the French unions, as such are not active in politics. Neither the unions nor the cooperative societies directly endorse political parties. This is due to the anti-political attitude of the French syndicalists and their lack of faith in the political weapon. It is also due to their distrust of political leaders who have so frequently in the past disappointed and betrayed their labor constituents. Political action by workers is thus carried on by political societies like the socialist parties and not by the unions.

Mr. Saposs has written an excellent story of the French labor movement and contrasted the pre-war and post-war developments. He deals not only with the trade unions but also, and in a comprehensive manner, with the employers' organizations, the co-operative movement and political groupings among French workers. Miss Clark's study is less comprehensive.

The Anti Trust Laws Find a Defender

"The Masquerade of Monopoly," by Frank Albert Fetter (Harcourt Brace and Company, 1931).

The Sherman and Clayton anti-trust laws have been attacked from many quarters during the past decade. Industrialists, in particular, have urged that their repeal or, at least, their modification will make possible agreements among large corporations to restrict production to control prices and stabilize employment. Trade associations, chambers of commerce and business groups in general charged the anti-trust legislation with preventing the co-operation

of industries, in controlling overproduction, cut-throat competition and low prices. In some instances labor leaders have also, and for similar reasons, urged the modification of the anti-trust legislation.

Professor Fetter's book is clearly and definitely against this proposal. He dedicates his book to "a nation of victimized consumers" and to equally victimized business men who are caught in the toils of vicious commercial practices which destroy economic freedom.

In more than 450 pages of able writing he has shown that monopoly has been masquerading under various forms, but is nearly always present and with the purpose of raising prices, at all times. The most subtle and dangerous of big business practices which lead to monopoly he finds in the so-called "basing-point" system, more popularly known as Pittsburgh-Plus. Under this system steel, for example, was sold only on a "delivered price" basis which included the price to be paid per ton at the mill plus freight from Pittsburgh, Pa. Thus to the price of all steel sold was added the freight rate from Pittsburgh to the point of delivery, even though the steel was only shipped from Gary to Chicago, or even for a shorter distance. The net result has been a system of local price discrimination, a tendency to monopoly and the victimization of consumers and business men. This practice has been in operation for over 30 years and has escaped the eye of the government attorneys and even of many economists. To Professor Fetter's handling of the case against "Pittsburgh-Plus" is due much credit for the Federal Trade Commission's condemnation of Pittsburgh-Plus in 1924.

He attacks in turn the several familiar forms of business practices which tend to concentration and control. Not only the Standard Oil trust which the Supreme Court dissolved and the steel trust, which the same court allowed, but also many of the practices of trade associations and the so-called "new competition" devices. Even as to mergers which have been so common in recent years and which have received the tacit support of Department of Justice, Professor Fetter doubts their virtues and alleged public benefits.

His conclusion is a bold defense of the Sherman Act which has been subjected to a well-organized propaganda of its opponents for nearly 40 years. Its repeal or any modification which will weaken it present a grave danger to the system of commercial liberty which has been developed. "We stand," he writes in his concluding chapter "at the parting of the ways and must choose, whether we will or not, the road to greater artificial control of prices by private privilege or the road that leads toward freer markets and personal freedom safeguarded by public agencies." The remedies for monopoly and the means of obtaining non-discrimination in prices he finds in "the requirement and enforcement of publicity for all prices." Full publicity and the posting of all prices so that all buy-

ers may know, together with the enforcement of the Sherman Act, are necessary to protect the consumer and the small business man from unfair competition of the big corporation. It will, in addition, avoid the masquerading of monopolistic practices under other forms.

The reviewer does not share Professor Fetter's optimism that his simple "posting of prices" solution would prevent unfair competition and would check the trend toward large scale units of production. Neither would the many proponents of some system of economic planning find support for their thesis that there is pressing need for some method of social control which would check competitive production and price and profit competition. Future progress will depend in the reviewer's opinion not on the degree to which we liberate the productive units to compete and over-expand but rather upon social control in the direction of planned production and distribution. If the anti-trust laws need modification to make this possible they should be modified. This does not imply that the government will cease to protect the consumer and the small man against victimization, but that new agencies other than the present anti-trust laws will have to be developed to that end.

POPULAR EXPERIMENTS WITH SCRIP—NO MONEY

(Continued from page 15)

human body when the heart stops and circulation ceases has happened to the old economic system. The body dies. The old system is dead.

"Nothing remains but to organize a new economic system in which exchange can be carried on without the use of money. This has been organized by the Natural Development Association and is known as 'Natural Government.' It consists of the same people and products and is divided into the same ten groups as was the old system.

"The difference is that instead of the old financial system which blocks all attempts to revive the circulation of money in industry, we have our co-operative, non-profit association, bringing in as members both producer and consumer."

Mr. Thomas R. Faddis, business manager of Local Union No. 354, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, finds no complete satisfaction with the workings of the Natural Development Association by members of this organization who have had to do with it, but he says, "There is no doubt in my mind that it is doing a lot to help lots of people who would otherwise be thrown on charity."

In Los Angeles and other points of the west other experiments are going forward. Under Marion Zioncheck, Seattle has provided for the self-employment of 60,000 jobless men. Mr. Zioncheck has organized a society called the Federated Unemployed. This group has cleared land, picked berries and fruit, and has been able to keep many thou-

sands from abject starvation through this self-help system.

In Los Angeles the Unemployed Co-operative Relief Association, with 38 locals throughout the county, has been organized. Dr. Kirk is the leading spirit in this organization.

In Waterloo, Iowa, 1,600 unemployed men have organized the Unemployed Relief Club. This is under the leadership of A. R. Locke. They pay a membership dues of five cents a year. They have secured free the use of a large four-story building in the heart of the city. They zone the city. They secured the co-operation of the farmers outside of town. A man worked for the farmers and received food for pay. Live hogs and other stock were brought into town and butchered, creating employment for unemployed butchers and meat cutters. No one is ever paid money for the services rendered. All officers of the club are paid in produce, clothes, shoes, wood or service. To date the farmers have paid 26,000 pounds of pork in exchange for services given by members of the club.

CONSTRUCTION IS MAIN ROAD TO RECOVERY

(Continued from page 7)

here in Washington. The taxpayers should not be compelled to pay for that building out of their 1932 income just because the money is being spent this year. We do not allow private corporations to charge their long-time expenditures for plant and equipment to the operating costs of a single year. Those are capital costs and capital costs are spread over the life of each project, and charged off over a period of years. Why doesn't the government do the same thing and pay for its construction through a bond issue? A parallel to the way the matter is handled now would be if your 1932 electric light bills had to be swollen by the entire cost of a new power plant which happens to be erected this year by the electric light company.

MR. WILLIAMS: It seems to me, Dr. Lubin, that pay for public construction through a bond issue might merely represent a transfer of purchasing power from the bond buyers to the government. The increased demand for labor by the government would be offset by the decreased demand of the bond buyer. If so, the net result would be no increase in the total amount of employment.

DR. LUBIN: Not necessarily, Williams. First, one result of a public works program would be a reduction in the funds required for unemployment relief. So our taxes for relief purposes—and incidentally, about two-thirds of our relief funds come from taxes—would be cut. That purchasing power would then be available for other things.

Second, in so far as the bonds are purchased with funds which are being hoarded you would further increase the country's purchasing power.

And third, a large portion of the bonds would be purchased with bank credit, and to the extent that happened, the total purchasing power of the nation would be increased.

MR. STERN: Yes, but if you use bank

credit to finance government expenditures you cut down by just so much the credit available for private industry, don't you?

DR. LUBIN: That assumes that the credit available is a fixed sum, Stern. The fact is that the amount of credit is elastic. Moreover, private industry is not using the credit that is available. Our excess bank reserves today are more than \$500,000,000. On the basis of that excess the banks of the country could lend out over \$5,000,000,000 if they had to. As you know each dollar of bank reserves is generally regarded as a basis for \$10 of bank credit.

MR. WILLIAMS: A minute ago, Dr. Lubin, you intimated that a public works program need not necessarily increase taxes in the long run. I cannot see that at all. I'd like to hear more about it.

DR. LUBIN: If we went in for an active construction program at this time it should cover necessary projects, which in any event would have to be undertaken in the future. In a sense you would be telescoping the construction of the next two or three years into a single year. In other words, intensive public construction within the next 12 months should mean less than the usual amount of public building after business picks up again. Thus the total amount spent, and consequently the total tax bill over a period of years, should not be any larger than it otherwise would have been; excepting, of course, the additional interest charge. Furthermore, if you take the low construction costs of today into consideration, it is possible that the total tax bill for public works over a given period might even be lower than it otherwise would have been.

Still further, if a building program restores business to any extent, incomes will be increased and tax receipts will automatically rise without having to step up the tax rates. The public works, in other words, might in themselves lead to the creation of the incomes out of which the work would be paid for. In any case, I think you will both agree that it is foolish to expand public building when private construction is active, and to contract the public works program when private enterprise is stagnant. That's just what we have been doing.

MR. STERN: That's true.

DR. LUBIN: The two types of building should supplement and not compete with each other.

MR. STERN: What would you say, Dr. Lubin, are the best types of public works to start? With that particular construction work would you "prime the business machine," to use your expression?

DR. LUBIN: They number in the dozens. There are thousands of miles of main highways yet to be resurfaced. Other highways need widening so that traffic may move safely and efficiently. There are flood control and reclamation projects, bridges, water supply and sewer systems, hospitals, national parks, and other undertakings too numerous to classify.

MR. STERN: What about schools? I understand that there is a shortage of school buildings in most of our cities, with many classrooms badly overcrowded. Certainly there is a shortage of modern fireproof schools. There's a movement under way now to have the states increase the compulsory school attendance age to 16. That would end child labor, and according to the United States Commissioner of Education, send into the schools some 2,000,000 children under 17 who now work for wages. This would not only give adults those 2,000,000 jobs, but it would put an additional number to work building schools, playgrounds, and other equipment to educate the new pupils.

And how about railroad grade crossings, which everyone agrees ought to be eliminated? Also, reforestation? Chief Forester Stuart, of the Department of Agriculture, says there are about 300,000,000 acres of idle land capable of growing trees.

DR. LUBIN: It's just that sort of thing I had in mind when I said that a public works program should take care of necessary projects. We're going to modernize our schools some day; so why not do it now when we can give work to the unemployed and when costs are lower? The same is true of road widening, grade crossings, reforestation, and so forth.

MR. WILLIAMS: But many of those projects come within the function of the cities and states and most of them are unable to raise any funds right now.

MR. STERN: That could be taken care of by making such projects eligible for loans from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. And that leads to something that I have been thinking about. Don't both of you think that the weakness of the bill passed by Congress providing loans for self-liquidating public works is that it leaves out projects that are really self-liquidating even though you cannot measure their returns in dollars? Wouldn't you say that schools, in the sense that they make more efficient and better citizens, are essentially self-liquidating? If parks and playgrounds improve the community's health and cut down illness, should not they also be considered self-liquidating?

Finally, how about rebuilding our city slums? The other day I read Edith Elmer Woods' book on housing. She says that there are 9,000,000 homes in this country "bad enough to be demolished." She estimates their cost in crime, sickness, and death at \$14,000,000,000 a year. Even if we saved half the annual loss she estimates we should get a fine return on our investment.

DR. LUBIN: That would be a fine thing to shoot at. You know, of course, that the Relief and Reconstruction Act made specific provision for loans for slum clearance. But the requirements set up for such loans practically restrict them to three states—New York, Ohio and Texas.

MR. STERN: Well, gentlemen, let's assume that we've got the economic system going at a fair speed once more. What then? There will always be large bodies of unemployed to be taken care of. Even before this depression hit us, we had some 2,000,000 jobless in the country. And what about this technological unemployment? Aren't we going to continue to have men thrown out of jobs by labor-saving machines? What are you going to do about those workers?

DR. LUBIN: Some people think that unemployment insurance would help greatly there. You know we have already made a beginning along that line. A handful of private employers have put unemployment insurance schemes into effect voluntarily. And in one state—Wisconsin—unemployment insurance will be compulsory after the first of next July. But the fact remains that at present less than 250,000 workers are insured against unemployment in the United States. In Great Britain 12,000,000, and in Germany about 20,000,000 are thus insured.

(Here followed a discussion of the Wisconsin state unemployment insurance plan, and also a discussion of the British and European social insurance systems.)

MR. WILLIAMS: I feel strongly, gentlemen, that we ought to be making more effort to accumulate experience in this whole field. I believe, however, that this experience will be properly gathered only if we make it entirely plain that we regard unemployment insurance as a palliative and not as a rem-

edy. All my observations among the workers here and abroad have taught me that there is no substitute for a man's job except another job. This is largely because in the mind of the worker his job supplies not only the means of his physical existence in the shape of bread and butter, but also represents the nourishment indispensable to the existence and growth of his very soul. Every man's job serves as a sort of cog for connecting him up with the whole world of useful services and, therefore, of ultimate personal values. It thereby satisfies the hunger of every man's soul for self-justification.

DR. LUBIN: But the difficulty, Williams, is that most people fail to see this spiritual part of a man's work.

MR. WILLIAMS: Well, Lubin, I've never found a worker so low as not to perceive it for himself in the case of his own job. This being so, I should regard unemployment insurance as an ultimate tragedy for the worker if it led the average citizen to believe that unemployment insurance relieved him from the necessity of giving further thought to the problem of those capable of working, willing to work, but unable to find work. What every worker knows is that on a \$15 weekly insurance benefit he would by no means whatsoever be half as well off as if he were earning \$30 a week by productive labor.

DR. LUBIN: I think that everyone who has studied the subject agrees that unemployment insurance does not stimulate malingering and laziness.

MR. STERN: Isn't the whole business, in the last analysis, one of providing jobs for all who want to work? If these technocracy engineers know what they're talking about we're going to come out of this depression with 5,000,000 workers permanently unemployed. Technical changes will make them no longer necessary. How in the world are you going to find places for them?

In that connection I want to ask about the movement for shorter working hours. I regard that as one of the most important steps in our present crisis. The American Federation of Labor has now endorsed the 30-hour week. It has also been made official government policy in connection with all construction financed by federal R. F. C. loans. Obviously one way of taking up the slack in employment is to spread the work which is available among as large a number of workers as possible. Shouldn't all of us be getting more actively behind this movement?

MR. WILLIAMS: Of course, Stern, we can and probably will shorten hours. But unless at the same time we step up production and maintain wage rates so that the purchasing power of the individual worker will not be cut down as a result of shorter working time, we are not going to increase the general demand for goods and labor. And so we won't be any better off.

Our trouble is underconsumption. And our first job is deliberately to set about to increase our general standard of living. If we maintain that high enough we won't have any trouble in keeping everybody busy.

DR. LUBIN: Absolutely, that's the heart of the whole matter. That's the real way out. If we increased the normal consumptive power of our people by 50 per cent—and to do that you need a sane system of both national and world trade—if we increased our normal consumption by only one-half, all of this talk of general over-capacity, over-production and excess labor would disappear over night.

MR. STERN: I don't see how you're going to do that without economic planning, both national and international.

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

(Continued from page 22)

bulb is located in the region of the hottest oil in the transformer. The Bourdon gauge is calibrated in degrees centigrade, and continuous indications of temperature are given by the movement of a black hand over this scale. A red hand, actuated by the movement of the black hand, records the maximum temperature reached between readings, and may easily be reset by a knurled knob on the front of the case.

In the styles designed with bell alarm contacts, the black hand carries an insulated cam, which at a predetermined temperature, closes a pair of spring-supported electrical contacts of ample size. The setting can be changed by removing the front cover plate.

The flexible, braid-covered contact leads are 15 inches long and are brought out through a carefully reamed one-fourth inch nipple.

The spring-supported contacts are designed for operation on alarm circuits up to the maximum of 125 volts.

This design is sturdy and reliable. It utilizes well established principles in a simple construction, and assures a high degree of accuracy under severe operating conditions.

Construction

The dial is four inches in diameter with large, black figures that are read easily at a distance. The mounting is upright, and on a level with the eye; direct mounting

for smaller tanks, and with a flexible tube for larger tanks to allow the instrument to be placed at eye level. The same designs are also offered with contact for bell alarm circuits.

PLANNERS' PROBLEM: CAN WAGES BE UPHELD?

(Continued from page 11)

meet this offer, it is conceivable that within the next decade, all the lumber and material supplies needed for this enterprise will be offered at cost, either by the corporations who at present own and control and produce these materials, or else by direct order of the planning commission which will by that time control all of our natural resources.

All of these things I predict for the future, because I have for the past seven years been in close contact with all of the several thousand electrical apprentices who have entered the well-organized electrical industry in Chicago, and have become full-fledged journeymen by fulfilling a planned school and practical experience program, and I know of what caliber our union men are made.

The bound volumes of the 1932 Electrical Workers Journal are to be sold again this year for \$3.75 postage prepaid. They are uniform with the volumes of other years, one-fourth leather, handsome and durable.

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3	A-J, 34401-34521	64	303901 304026	161	85284 85314	271	591852 591871	395	613197 613205
3	A-J, 34601-34615	64	624995 625159	163	529828 529920	275	50354 50371	396	373033 373044
3	A-2-H, 41	65	755741 755920	164	73227 73228	275	32306	397	622015 622042
3	A-3-H, 310-338	66	758235 758250	164	264991 265150	276	571649 571668	400	456564 456606
3	A-4-H, 7434-8032	66	798001 798173	164	265751 266060	278	410824 410833	401	619428 619485
3	O-A, 2065-2306	67	634655 634677	164	266834 267150	280	639369 639373	403	626405 626419
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3	B-J, 601-603	68	598903 598930	164	687211 688050	284	442941 442979	406	93715 93735
3	B-H, 41-45	69	532885 532896	164	688501 688512	285	642342 642355	407	618371 618378
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607	78117	78124	734	699020	699170	1047	169456	169479	
611	143130	143153	735	603293	603305	1054	37377	37384	
613	43534	43566	735	699020	699087	1057	482553	482559	
613	664771	664781	743	615729	615741	1072	858779	858801	
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629	674340	674370	772	702383	702386	1095	82336	82364	
630	334683	334718	773	622239	622267	1099	645301	645305	
631	558960	559004	774	623742	623798	1099	787841	787850	
632	73731	73773	784	639123	639147	1101	341863	341892	
636	553644	553677	787	626715	626726	1105	658305	658316	
640	335009	335025	792	707265	707270	1108	81711	81719	
642	142303	142325	794	148959	148960	1118	77244	77265	
644	632869	632907	794	658586	658637	1131	38601	38610	
646	47489	47494	798	954779	954791	1135	64208		
648	14408		802	675614	675618	1135	614290	614293	
648	149805	149814	809	49628	49636	1141	21944	21950	
648	455945	456000	811	64609	64614	1141	241416	241446	
648	714751	714836	817	127745	127746	1141	638515	638540	
649	534979	535001	817	702015	702271	1144	81346	81354	
653	59612	59636	818	694714	694715	1147	59398	59400	
654	2595	2602	819	75779	75791	1147	11512		
655	13419	13426	820	50654	50663	1147	659401	659422	
656	84153	84191	835	80266	80274	1151	657912	657919	
656	210751	210753	838	624333	624359	1154	4530	4531	
658	39471	39476	840	622835	622855	1154	629948	629971	
660	430755	430815	842	624944	624950	1156	667725	667783	
661	206007	206021	849	623587	623588				
664	78527	78550	850	746306	746308				
665	615296	615300	854	81312					
665	658801	658815	854	205464	205497				

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17-789757.

20-470842, 919,

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38-53331, 54086.

40-793599, 633, 654,

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48-589062, 982, 230.

52-677582, 747, 925,

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64-625000, 028.

65-755808, 810, 814,

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66-798023, 160, 169.

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58406-58410.

465-55510, 55514.

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665-144075-076.

683-626157-626162.

1021-79826.

BLANK

43-547685, 780.

62-675993-995.

164-687660.

NEWS—NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL



American labor is being much in the news. Its policies attract national and international attention. A meeting of the American Federation of Labor is heralded as an event of significance.

Two customary adverse critics of the American Federation of Labor remark:

SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPERS:

"The usually conservative American Federation of Labor closed its Cincinnati convention with a record for progressivism.

"It pledged itself to adequate hunger relief administered by experts, old age pensions, the Davis-Kelly bill for a coal commission. It will fight against the sales tax, child labor, economy that jeopardizes free education. It demanded elimination of private profit in the manufacture of arms to 'curb the sinister activities of war mongers and patriots-for-profit.'

"It favored compulsory unemployment insurance by states, the reserves to come from the earnings of industry. It said: 'If industrial management fails to provide work it must be compelled to assume the burden of supplying relief.' "

FEDERATED PRESS:

"The most interesting and the most hopeful American Federation of Labor convention since the Montreal gathering in 1920 declared for the Plumb plan of government ownership of the railroads—that is the verdict of delegates as the 1932 sessions closed in Cincinnati. It was more pugnacious within the sessions and committee meetings, more militant on broad questions of labor policy and markedly to the left of recent years."

Labor will play a larger share in the news of 1932.

The Electrical Workers Journal is proud of its foremost place as an interpretative medium of the American labor movement.



ELECTRICAL WORKERS JOURNAL



COMMERCIAL prosperity at times is a fact, human prosperity in the sense of adequate income and the good life for all, is a myth. I fear that it will continue to be a myth until something is done in the direction of equalizing the present fantastic distribution of wealth. It is obvious that only a drastic revision of the system can abolish poverty and usher in an era of real prosperity.

STUART CHASE, *Economist*.

